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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

The Sportsman in Ireland, with his Summer Route through the Highlands of Scotland. By a Cosmopolite. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1840. Colburn.

WHY a Cosmopolite, we do not know; but as a brother of the gentle craft (unless the use of gentles were the origin of the title instead of the elegant and subtle art of fly-fishing) we fancy the members of the Walton Club, and all true anglers, will be ready to disown our author. His fishing is pot-walloping, and his means nefarious. Only think, instead of the exquisitely thrown line within an inch of the mark, and so softly that the smoothest surface of the water hardly tells of its fall, that there is a clumsy bait, sunk by a massive bullet into the boiling caldron of the catarract or stream, and till the trout or salmon lugs your tackle away, you do not know whether you are actually angling or plunging about for nothing. Protesting, therefore, against our Cosmopolite taking a place in the rank of true sportsmen, we must treat him as a tourist who saw a good deal of the country, and has described what he saw in an amusing manner. His book might have been shortened with advantage; but publishing, like his fishing, looks beyond the sport to the substance of what may be caught. Some of our readers will, we are certain, be desirous to know as soon as possible what the marvellous process was by which the author enticed, nay, as it were, compelled the scaly brood to quit their native element to entertain him with their convulsive throes upon the sod, and succulent nutrition upon the platter. Listen then, O anglers! to the story of two salmon captured by their enemy:—

"Although the season was getting late, and the salmon would be considered no longer the lawful spoil to the fair sportsman, I confess I prized them greatly, not for any inviting qualities they possessed for the table, but for the inestimable spawn they contained. On my arrival at a small hut, I halted with my attendant, and, having taken both the roes from the fish, I proceeded thus to cure them. The full roes were placed in a large basin of water. The particles were carefully separated, and the blood thoroughly washed from them. Having, after the cleansing, carefully drained the roe through a cloth, I put about two pounds of common salt upon them, working the salt well in by the hand. I then tied the whole in a cloth, and suspended it in the air while the preparations for my refreshment were making. In two hours I tied the mass up in a handkerchief, and placed it in my basket. The next day I potted it carefully down. This proved, on the ensuing season, some of the finest roe-bait I have ever possessed. My motive for giving this receipt here is, that whenever any of my fraternity may become equally fortunate in the capture of the fish in this state, they will be enabled at once to convert that, which is generally considered valueless, to the source of future success."

Having let out this grand secret of the salted salmon roe bait (long used in the north, by the by, when the rivers are thick and *drumly* from rains and tempests), we revert to the beginning

of our task. There is a dedication to a distinguished general, who once, unconsciously, tasted a specimen of our sporting, such as the Cosmopolite never saw at table; and which, though certainly not relished by the gallant soldier, we may mention in the way of gastronomy as being rather delicate in a *fricassée*. Did any of our friends ever eat of hedgehog? Without his prickles he is not so bad! *Verbum Ed.*

It seems as if nobody could not go nowhere in Ireland upon no kind of pursuit whatsoever, without getting into politics. Accordingly, our author, leaving its beautiful lakes and crystal streams, tumbles into the bog, and lands O'Connell, disparages Wellington (pages 310-11, Vol. I.) praises the priests, and disparages lords and marquesses, is pathetic on Hibernian poverty, and talks wildly of wild torrents, wild feelings, wild passions, wild freedom, wild love of justice, and other wildnesses more easily expressed than comprehended. Of the pathos, we select an example from the embarkation at Bristol:—

"See that father and mother, with their helpless race of children; behold them shivering in the bleak March blast, and now and then submitting to the spray which dashes over their half-covered limbs! That child, squalid and bare, crouching beneath the mother's scanty rags, behold her! She is human—those blue eyes seem to speak intelligence; she looks wistfully, beseechingly, yet modestly. It is for food she asks. Inquire their little history; it is the history of all. That father is strong, active, and not deficient in intelligence. You see he does not want feeling for those dependent on him; he has covered the children with his grey frieze coat, and bears the falling rain with a manly defiance. Unable to discharge the heavy imposts of his landlord and the tithe, he has been expatriated; he has sought what he imagined was the golden land; he has sought the English coast. Prejudice and the poor-laws have been his unconquerable foes. Employment was nowhere to be found; and, after a year's travelling from place to place, during which the hedge and the sheep-hovel have been his only covering, and the covering of his wife and little ones, he has at length been found guilty of being destitute, and condemned to—his native country. The surly officer, whom you saw speaking to him at Bristol, was employed to ship him and his family safely off by the packet. Their sea-store was supplied, their passage was paid. The bundle, which the enduring woman has hanging from her arm, contains potatoes; they have been already cooked, and you will see the father frequently distributing a portion among his trembling children—God help them! But their native land is now in sight. A joyous exclamation is heard among some—it is among the cabin passengers. Each runs to gain a glimpse of land—of Ireland—the place of our destination. All are pleased, except only the miserable family whose patient endurance of the long sea passage, whose hunger the loveliest of human food has barely appeased;—from them, and those who surround them, no sound of delight is heard. The countenance of the oppressed

father, as he shiveringly looks down upon his children, is marked by a stern misery;—his native land is indifferent to his view; it almost excites horror. For him, alas! and his, no home is there prepared;—he has no spot whereon to lie! no store, from which the wants of his little ones shall be supplied! To him, his native shores present only the barren rocks of desolation and despair. This is strange, and its cause is worth inquiry; for a cause there must be, why the child of a free country, able and willing to labour—asking only the meanest reward for his toil and zealous exertions—stained by no crime—should look to that free country, and demand but bread, yet be refused. There is a cause, a deep and damning one—'if philosophy could find it out.' The morning broke; and who that has voyaged by steam or coach does not shrink at the remembrance of the peeping morn of March? The face of the ocean presents a cold cheerlessness, which even the sluggish sunrise does not dispel; its rays seem rather to render still more visible the ravages of watchfulness or inebriety. Every face is without a smile; the features are paralysed; even the mind is benumbed and depressed, and misery looks still more miserable. The lower deck of the steamer was the parade of those who had known no other couch during the night. The wretched family I had before observed were still crouching under the packages; the father standing, in silent suffering, over them!"

Whatever of real truth may be in this picture is no doubt to be deplored; but there are other and very different views "if Philosophy could find them out." A sudden mountain storm, of which we have an account, shews that Nature can be as violent and severe as man:—

"In the year 1832, the month of June was singularly dry. The 15th of that month put forth the appearance of a brilliant day;—the sun shone out in unalloyed splendour, and diffused heat and life around. On the banks of the Clyde might be observed the rustic dwellings of numerous humble families, and in the midst of them the mansion of a gentleman who had devoted himself to the exercise of that hospitality which is almost the distinguishing characteristic of the Irish; at least, of those who are unpolluted by the extravagance of a residence in England. On the morning of the day above-mentioned, he was surrounded by his family; the cottagers were enjoying the loveliness of the day; the cattle every where grazing on the abundant verdure which covered the slopes towards the river. Suddenly the sun became obscured—the roar of distant thunder shook the dwelling—fear started into every countenance—and, before any had time to communicate with another, a terrific catarract rushed from the mountains, sweeping all before it—bridges, cattle, houses, and their unlucky inhabitants, all hurled to an instant destruction. Such was the fury of the flood, that rocks of fifty tons weight were thrown from the bed of the river into the adjoining fields—the habitations of the poor retained no vestige of their existence—bridges, built on granite, at once disappeared, and the power of the flood reigned supreme.

In one hour all was again still. The river assumed its usual form, trickling among the rocks, and here and there forming a slight bay. The sun shone forth with his accustomed splendour; but the inhabitants, whose smiling dwellings had before given a charm to the scene, were no more heard! Every human creature, whose habitation was on the banks of the Ciydah, suddenly perished, without warning, and without apparent cause."

Some of the author's aquatic exploits on the coasts of Ireland are painted in rather a Major Longbow vein; but they are diverting even from their apparent exaggeration. After performing them he left that country for Scotland, parts of the Western Highlands of which he traversed, which hardly bears out the extended phraseology of his title-page, "through the Highlands of Scotland." What he did see seems not to have impressed him favourably with the Scotch character. He accuses the innkeepers, and nearly all other classes with whom he had any dealings, with being extortioners of the rankest kind:—

"It has been," he says, "decided by her majesty's Court of Queen's Bench that, to say of an inn, 'he who stays there must have a long purse,' is no libel. I may, therefore,—as I really wish to afford useful information to my successors in the tour of the Highlands—duly premise that an ample supply of coin is the first requisite; as the Clarendon is tolerably modest, when compared not only with the inns of Inverary, but all that have been erected into such on the line called the popular tour. Time was that one could travel through the Highlands and enjoy the lowly accommodation which the modest halting-houses presented, and escape with a charge in a degree commensurate with the accommodation afforded. Now, indeed, every such hostelry has been metamorphosed into an inn of pretence; with a gentleman waiter, duly ensconced in a black suit, to lay before you dirty tablecloths, steel forks, and execrable stuff, dignified by the appellation of dinner. This is performed, too, with the conscious air of one bestowing a benefit; while the landlord awaits to receive your thanks for the kind interest he has taken in your welfare—in permitting you to be housed at all. The truth is, that the inns on the highland tour, which have been very recently erected, and let at enormous rents, are now the only places where a resting-place may be found. All who travel must stop at them; and, though it frequently happens, that parties of ladies are compelled to sleep in what is called the coffee-room, and on chairs, and sometimes even in their own carriages, the influx of tourists is still so great that the stranger is at the mercy of the landlord, who would by no means tolerate any remonstrance as to the unreasonableness of the charges. The enormous rents demanded by the landed proprietors, whose houses these all are, contribute greatly to keep up and encourage the system of extortion which will be universally complained of in a Scottish tour; there is no remedy for this, but to avoid the place. And why should it be sought, when the search brings one among persons whose only object is fleeing—whose only welcome is bought at a price of so unequal amount; while the splendid highlands of Ireland, whose inhabitants would flock to serve the stranger, and where moderation in all demands will be found, are still neglected or unknown? The gorgeous equipages which I have beheld dashing up the mountains from Inverary, burdened with the wealthiest of the wealthy sons of England, whose lavish expense enriches only the grasping

landlord, but scatters no genial good to the poor, would, had their course been directed up the still more magnificent mountains of Kerry, Connemara, or Clare, have been the means of saving many a starving family, whose real distresses and privations remain unknown to the rest of the world. I have, however, now to speak of Scotland. It is not the country for a sportsman. The landlords here, indeed, are too cannie to permit it; and it has long lived on a reputation that, I trust, every year will contribute to dissipate. I found at the inn Lord F—, Captain D—, of the Guards, and Captain F—, all good sportsmen and true. They had, however, just returned from where they had been induced, by the representations of the steward, to purchase the shooting over a considerable estate. Their expressions of disgust at the paltry imposition practised on them need not be repeated. The sum was one hundred pounds; the terms of invitation contained also assurances that the red deer were abundant. Not one found they; as, I believe, they had disappeared from the estate in question about the same time that the elk took his leave. A few, and very few, grouse rewarded a fortnight's toil, and reimbursed them for their one hundred pounds. But they had the pleasure of residing, during their short sojourn, at a small inn belonging to the same proprietor, whose landlord had not forgotten that they were persons capable of paying well for mountain mutton, since they had so liberally disbursed for a few grouse. I believe nearly every estate that can bear a long advertisement is now let in this way for the season, and the continued succession of hirers is really marvellous. On one half of the estates thus let there is not, and in the memory of man never was, any game. Yet, in the Highlands of Scotland, to be seen with a gun is an offence against the aristocracy, which they will by no means pardon. In no country in the world—not even the civilised tracts of England—is game more strictly preserved than here; and it is well to preserve it, if it be not desired that it should become altogether extinct. But the strict guard is not appointed for the generous purpose, as in other countries, of affording sport to the friends of the proprietor; true to the national character, it is looked on only as a source of gain, and a mode of boozing the wealthy English out of their money. In one instance, so gross was the imposition, and so utterly void of truth was the representation of the existence of game, that the deluded gentleman, who had absolutely paid two hundred pounds for the season's shooting, very properly called the proprietor to account, and distinctly told him that he should consider him answerable for the deception under which he suffered. The answer he received was of a character befitting the transaction;—a part of the money was returned, but with an assurance from the lord of the soil that the deputation of the manor was always placed in the steward's hands, and never directly or remotely interfered in by himself; and it could, as he observed, be hardly reasonable that the proprietor should be answerable for the acts of the steward. The delicate ignorance of the acts of the deputy, although the proceeds had doubtless found their way into the pocket of the master without inquiry, was very admirable, and excused the latter from any very personal responsibility."

How unjust a general charge such as this is we need not say. A very few instances of discontented tourists being charged more than their stingy natures relished for their accommodation at inns, and of pseudo-sportsmen disappointed

in the extent of their slaughter on the heath-covered hills, are but poor grounds on which to libel a nation eminent for its hospitality. The author did not deserve to enjoy the princely entertainment so liberally accorded by the nobility of Scotland to the numbers whom they honour as their guests; nor the more lowly, but no less warm and kindly welcome of the humbler ranks. He was a grumbler, whom no native of any country likes; and, having tasted the fruits of that disposition, he now turns round to abuse and vilify whole classes for the treatment he so worthily earned at the hands of the few with whom he came into contact. His story of a farmer's wife making him a present of a turkey, and pillaging him of eight shillings for it, we will venture to say is not the truth; and, having thus insulted his veracity, and vindicated the Land of Cakes from his aspersions, we gladly yield him and his potted salmon-roe to another Irish excursion, sincerely hoping that he will never visit Scotland again, or, if he does, take care not to make himself known there as the writer of these volumes.

Historical Reveries. By a Suffolk Villager. Small 8vo. pp. 117. 1839. London: Longman and Co. Sudbury: Fulcher.

THIS is a beautiful and unassuming little volume; plain in its outward attire; in a few brief words of preface; and in two or three sweet, simple verses, dedicated by the authoress to her mother. We say *her*, for it bears internal evidence of being the production of a lady. The perusal of it has afforded us much pleasure,—has refreshed our mind, by bringing us back from the mere empty jingling of rhyme to the true and natural, which alone constitute healthy poetry. True, the work is not without its faults; but even these are never of a kind to offend; for many of the errors seem to have a *naïveté* and a charm, and to strike us more strongly with the originality of the subjects. The thoughts have evidently emanated from the heart; the writer has felt what she has written; and accordingly, in return, makes us feel what we read,—one of the greatest and best tests of the goodness of poetry; and we forget her little errors, verbal or metrical, while drinking in the refreshing thoughts. Her faults are, however, such as practice will remove: would that we could say the same to all aspirants for the poetic wreath! The following extract will justify our remarks; it contains many faulty lines, but also many beautiful ones; while the feeling throughout the poem is excellent, and appeals directly to the heart: we wish it had been written in another measure:—

"Retrospection."

We skirted the green common in evening's quiet light,
We swept along the broad road an hour before night,
We left behind long avenues of deep and massive green,
And nearer, nearer, nearer still the city vast was seen.
Its dim and distant spires more clearly defined grew,
Its giant domes rose silently the misty ether through;
And closing in around us stretch'd its lengthening shadows
dun,
When a narrow lane-way open'd towards the setting sun.
I know not what it is, in a summer afternoon,
In the calm of still July, or the green delight of June;
I know not what it is, but I know the feeling well,
Comes over me at sunset like a vision or a spell.
I know not what there should be of influence or of power,
In the fall of the day more than any other hour;
But oh! I know it well, like a gleam of something gone,
How strangely it comes o'er me as the sunset-light comes on.

We pass'd a narrow lane that came up from the west,
We were sweeping through the broad road by busy feet
impress'd;
And the yellow slanting sunbeams, with an almost level ray,
Stream'd down upon a boy who was running there at

Running, running, all alone, in an ever-changing ring,
Round some wooden plaything which he held in a long
string.
And whist'd it round and round him, and ran round it
eagerly,—
It might be boat, or sledge, or kite, he meant that it
should be.

Not that it was like these things, or any thing defined,
But form and colouring live within a child's inventive
mind;
And, unlike the hurrying passers-by, he ran round there
at play.

As if upon some village-green a hundred miles away.
I know not what it is, but a sad and strange delight
Unconsciously came o'er me as I look'd upon the sight;
And amid the unquiet streets, through the long and
thoughtful day,
I am haunted ever since by that happy child at play.

It is even such a feeling as rises in one's breast
At the sight of pleasant pictures, of gardens trimly dress'd,
With their long, smooth, gravel walks, and their never-
turning ways,
Seen as they used to look in the hue of other days.

Or when one turns the pages of some great gardener old,
Who leads the tall sunflower and gleaming marigold;
The spikes of the hollyhock, and the scented hawthorn
bough,
And all those grave and stately things which are thought
nothing now.

I am tired of the bright shows that meet me every where,
I am tired of the hurry, I am tired of the glare;
I wish I were again in that world of long ago,
It seems as if I'd lived in, though when I do not know.

There are some rude old verses, about the hills of Wales,
And a cottage buried far in the winding inland dales,
And a grey-hair'd old woman with a quick and cheerful
air,

And I never read those lines but I half seem to have been
[there]
It may be a half memory of the chalky uplands wild,
Where we play'd and gather'd wild flowers when I was
quite a child;

And the ancient lady living where the brook ran past her
door,
With her garden of anemones, and her neatly sand'd
floor,
Of the long shady lanes where the thick hazels grow,
And the lone deserted lime-kilns where the wild roses
blow,

Where thy sweet lily, Nettlestead, in other days held
state,
And the gateway of her home stands to mind us of her
Oh! they are gone, those changeable times, of reckless
pastime all,

Save when the hasty brand was drawn, the sudden axe
let fall;
When he who once was glad to hide in green Boscobel's
shade,

At merry bowls in Christ-church park beneath the chest-
nut play'd.

When Monmouth rode, a hunter blythe, the gay knight of
the rose,
And Claydon's hills and rich corn-fields saw proud and
gallant shows,

Too soon to see, like summer skies, all shapes of change
flit by,
While he, the lily's twice false lord, was led in shame to
Ah, well-a-day! we will not grieve for troubled years like
these,

Nor wander from our argument to haunt those green old
It is but through one human life our glance is stretching
back,
And dim enough in distance lies its sunrise-gilded track.

We were speaking, we were thinking, of the fitful gleams
that come,
Like sudden torches lifted in a dark and starry dome,
Where the tools of the astrologer lie scatter'd on the
ground.

And cast may be our horoscope, and life's lost entries
found.

It may be some faint traces of villages far hence,
Where the broad Trent rolls his stream by the pasture-
land's green fence;
Where by the side of Tuxford heath winding our pathway
lone,

With awe I used to look upon the grey rebel's stone.
O! memory-hallow'd Ossington! sweet bower of ro-
mance,

Whence life, afar-off look'd on, wore a pleasant counte-
nance;
I have not found its aspect upon a nearer view
Like the thing it seem'd to be when in thy horizon
blue.

In the woodpaths long and lonesome, oh! for an hour of
play,
Or down in the pond-garden beneath the poplars grey,
Where we rock'd upon the willow-bough above the hill of
moor,

With the gardener's ruin'd cottage seen the broken hedge
across.

Oh! for an hour of hunting in the study's dusty screen,
For a rare and untold story of what had never been:
A gate on the old paintings that hung the dark walls
round,

And led the wandering spirit o'er magic-tinted ground.

Oh! where, where, can the world be, to which memory
pointeth back,
I know not where to find it in life's well-beaten track:
I have studied grave geography, and pored on map and
chart,
But I never found the pleasant land whose face is in my
heart.

Oh! the present time forgets what the future was to give,
And the further-off seems happiness the longer that we
live;

We see it far before us, fast fleeting as the wind,
And turning to look backward, we see it far behind.
They say, the quiet evening of life's declining day
Doth wear a better hue than its morning's glad array;
I wonder if its sunset will ever bring to me
As sweet a light as that which doth linger over thee.
Farewell, farewell, green Ossington! would mine were
but the rhyme,
Could give thy pleasant name in sure keeping unto Time!
Like to some gone-by masque array'd beneath the sum-
mer bough,
Like a dream but half returning, for ever comest thou."

Peter Paul Rubens, his Life and Genius.

Translated from the German of Dr. Waagen,
by Robert R. Noel, Esq. Edited by Mrs.
Jameson. 8vo. pp. 132. London, 1840.
Saunders and Otley.

WE entirely agree with the fair editor. To
constitute a great artist,—indeed, to constitute
a great man of any kind,—the concurrence
of genius and industry is indispensable; for,
without a fine natural organisation, the most
dogged labour will be unavailing; and the
finest natural organisation, without unremit-
ting labour, will be equally so. The attain-
ment of celebrity requires a third ingredient—
opportunity. Perhaps no human being ever
lived who combined these and other advantages
more extensively than Rubens. Nevertheless,
the mind is still overwhelmed with astonish-
ment on contemplating the number and excel-
lence of his works, and the wide diffusion of
his fame.

"With regard to Rubens," says Mrs. Jameson, "there may exist a difference of taste, but there cannot, I conceive, be two opinions. The degree of pleasure we take in his works may depend more or less on our sympathy with, and comprehension of, the man, as a man: but, assuredly, every cultivated judgment, formed on just principles of art, must, consistently with such principles, pronounce Rubens one of the greatest painters in the world. We could entertain no very exalted idea of the taste of one who could prefer Rubens to Raffaele; but we should feel inclined to compassionate those who could not understand and appreciate Rubens. Pleasure, and pleasure of a most vivid kind, is necessarily shut out from such a mind. To venture to judge Rubens, we ought to have seen many of his pictures. His defects may be acknowledged once for all; they are, in all senses, gross, open, palpable. His florid colour, dazzling and garish in its indiscriminate excess; his exaggerated, redundant forms; his coarse allegories; his historical improprieties; his vulgar and prosaic versions of the loftiest and most delicate creations of poetry;—let all these be granted: but this man painted that sublime History, almost faultless in conception and in costume, the 'Decius' in the Lichtenstein Gallery. This man, who has been called unpoetical, and who was a born poet, if ever there was one, conceived that magnificent epic, 'The Battle of the Amazons'; that divine lyric, 'The Virgin Mary trampling down Sin and the Dragon,' in the Munich Gallery, which might be styled a Pindaric Ode in honour of the Virgin, only painted instead of sung; and those tenderest moral poems, the 'St. Theresa pleading for the Souls in Purgatory'; and the little sketch of 'War,' in the Lichtenstein Gallery, where a woman sits desolate on the black, wide heath, with dead bodies and implements of war

heaped in shadowy masses around her; while, just seen against the lurid streak of light left by the setting sun, the battle rages in the far distance. In both these pictures, the moral and the sentiment are so exquisitely pure and true, and conveyed to the mind and to the heart with such comprehensive and immediate effect, that they might be compared to some of the sonnets of Filicaja. Look but at the thirteen hundred pictures, all the product of his own vehement and abounding fancy; in great part the work of his own right hand. In these multifarious creations, embracing almost every aspect of life and nature, what amazing versatility of power as displayed in the conception of his subjects,—what fertility of invention in their various treatment! What ardent, breathing, blooming life,—what pomp and potency of colour and light, have been poured forth on his canvass! If he painted heavy forms, has he not given them souls, and animated them with all his own exuberance of vitality and volition? Whatever his personages enact, they do with all the earnestness of the soul which conceived, and all the energy of the hand which formed them. Dr. Waagen dwells on the dramatic power of Rubens as the first and grand characteristic of his genius; and who ever excelled him in telling a story?—in connecting, by sympathetic action or passion, his most complicate groups, and with them, in spirit, the fascinated spectator? And though thus dramatic in the strongest sense, yet he is so without approaching the verge of what we call theatrical. With all his flaunting luxuriance of colour, and occasional exaggeration in form, we cannot apply that word to him. Le Brun is theatrical: Rubens never. His sins are those of excess of power and daring; but he is ever the reverse of the flimsy, the artificial, or the superficial. His gay magnificence and sumptuous fancy are always accompanied by a certain impress and assurance of power and grandeur, which often reaches the sublime, even where it stops short of the ideal."

Again:—"Distinct as Rubens and Titian appear in their works, they seem to me to have been kindred minds, the very contrast which they exhibit as artists arising, in a manner, out of certain organic affinities in the nature of the two men: they saw with the same eyes, only that which they saw was different—as different as Flanders and Venice. 'Both were painters of flesh and blood; by nature poets, by conformation colourists; by temperament and education, magnificent spirits, scholars and gentlemen, lovers of pleasure and of fame.' The difference between the glow of Rubens and the glow of Titian is the difference between the bright northern and the fervid southern climate; between the dewy, roseate, all-involving light of morning, and the soft, shadowy, mellow splendours of evening. Let us endeavour to contrast in our fancy, or rather our memory, certain of their pictures; for instance, the 'Helena Formann' of Rubens, with Titian's 'La Manto,' in the Pitti Palace; the 'Man with the Hawk,' of Rubens, and Titian's 'Falconer'; the 'Chapeau de Paille,' and the 'Flora' of the Florentine Gallery; can any thing in art or creation be more opposed? and yet, in all alike, is it not the intense feeling of life and individual nature which charms and fixes us? But the characteristic in which Rubens did indeed surpass Titian, and every other painter in the world, except Raffaele and Albert Durer, was fertility of ideas. They seem to have gushed forth on his canvass like a torrent, overpowering his judgment, confused

by their own superabundance. It is only by understanding this *superflu d'âme et de vie*, that we can account for certain anomalies in his works. That he was a learned classical scholar, yet committed the wildest anachronisms in manners and costume—that he was familiar with the grace and grandeur of the antique, and could feel and understand both, yet was guilty of the strangest solecisms in character and form—arose not from incapacity or from ignorance, but from the influence of a foregone period in art, from which he could not shake himself wholly free, Titan as he was; and yet more from certain strong elements of his physical nature, beyond the mastery of his intellect, strong as *that was*. Rubens understood himself, knew what it lay in him to do, and did it confidently, joyously, spontaneously; and therefore it is, that with all his faults he remains ever great, original, and consistent with himself."

This is as true, as it is spiritedly and beautifully expressed.

Dr. Wagen's Essay is divided into two parts. The first consists of a sketch of the life of Rubens, comprehending a full development of his personal qualities and character; the second consists of a critical examination of his principal pictures, shewing the irresistible influence which his personal qualities and character had exercised in their conception and execution. Both parts deserve the deepest attention. The life is pleasingly narrated, and forms an admirable introduction to the estimate of Rubens as a painter: but we think that we shall best consult the advantage of our readers, and, at the same time, best exhibit the merits of the treatise, by quoting from the latter portion of it a masterly passage, illustrative of the condition of painting in the Netherlands at the period when Rubens commenced his career.

"The great school of the brothers Van Eyck, which united with a profound and genuine enthusiasm for religious subjects a pure and healthy feeling for nature, and a talent for portraying her minutest details with truth and fidelity, had continued till the fifteenth century, and in some instances even later, to produce the most admirable works, combining the utmost technical perfection in touch and finish with most vivid and beautiful colouring. To this original school, however, had succeeded a perverted rage for imitating the Italian masters, which had been introduced into the Netherlands by a few painters of talent, particularly by Jean Mabuse and Bernhard van Orley. To display their science by throwing their figures into forced and difficult positions, and strongly marking the muscles, by which they thought to emulate the grandeur of Michael Angelo, and to exhibit their learning by the choice of mythological and allegorical subjects, became the aim of succeeding painters; and before these false and artificial views of art, the spirit of religious enthusiasm, and the pure *naïve* perception of the truth and beauty of nature, gradually disappeared. In proportion as the Flemish painters lost the proper conception of form, and the feeling for delicacy and beauty of outline, it followed, of course, that they became more and more removed from nature in their desire to rival each other in the forced attitudes of their figures, and in the exhibition of nudity, until, at last, such disgusting caricatures were produced as we find in the works of Martin Hemskerck or Franz Floris—artists who were even deficient in good colouring, the old inheritance of the school. Some few painters, however, whose feeling for truth and nature repelled

them instinctively from a path so far removed from both, took to portraying scenes of real life with considerable humour and vivacity, or they delineated nature in her commonest aspects with great minuteness of detail: and thus *tableaux de genre* and landscape-painting originated. Despite the great merits of many of these works, they are nevertheless deficient in unity and simplicity of character. In the conception they display a vulgar taste, and a frequent straining after singular and extravagant effects. The artists of the Netherlands in the sixteenth century appear to most advantage in portrait-painting; for here they were reduced to the necessity of copying nature: but, even in this department, few are altogether exempt from affectation and stiffness. Although a few isolated efforts to introduce a better state of things were visible towards the end of the sixteenth century, it was reserved for a mind of no common power to bring about a complete revolution in art. Such? a mind was that of Rubens himself. A thorough Fleming in temperament and character, he led his countrymen back to the very point whence sprang their original excellence—the lively perception of natural forms, and the development of the faculty of colour. But the spirit of the times in which he lived, and the peculiar temper of Rubens's own mind, naturally prevented these characteristic qualities from being exhibited now as they would have been in the age of the Van Eycks. It had been the aim of the latter, as far as their means allowed, in the colouring as well as in the execution of their works, so to imitate nature, that their pictures, whether looked at closely, or contemplated from a distance, should produce, as nearly as possible, the same effect; the principal thing with Rubens, on the contrary, was the general effect; and though he painted the details with the greatest truth, he contented himself with making them subordinate to the whole, so as to resemble nature at a certain distance. The means which were at his command in his own time for the accomplishment of his purpose,—a better knowledge of the laws of perspective, and of the *chiaroscuro*, that breadth of style first introduced by Titian and his school, and then so admirably practised by Michael Angelo de Caravaggio, and the Caracci, these he had mastered with the greatest energy during his long residence in Italy; and the more successfully, as they perfectly accorded with the nature of his own genius. But instead of that genuine religious enthusiasm, long since vanished, which had formerly inspired the Van Eycks, so as even to spread a certain solemnity over their scenes of passion, the mind of Rubens was so imbued with the love for dramatic representation, that he imparted life and movement even to subjects which properly demanded a certain calmness and repose in the treatment. A most glowing and creative fancy, inexhaustible in the conception of new forms full of life and vigour, would naturally find even the easiest method of painting tedious, and thus feel the necessity of acquiring some method of transferring its creations to the canvass in the shortest time possible. His rare technical skill, and his extraordinary faculty of colour, aided Rubens admirably in attaining this object. He obtained at once the art of placing, with a master hand, the right tones in the right places, without trying all kinds of experiments with the colours on the pictures themselves; and after he had with ease blended them together, he knew how to give to the whole picture the last finish by a few master touches in those parts which he had left unpainted for the purpose.

This mode of treatment, so characteristic of the turn of Rubens's mind, is the reason why his pictures bear the stamp of an original burst of fancy more than those of any other painter. Hence Rubens, beyond any artist of modern times, may be styled a sketcher, in the highest and best sense of the word. If the greater part of his pictures bear upon the whole the character of a cheerful, jovial spirit, undisturbed by outward misfortunes, and a strong feeling of self-complacency, still these qualities are more particularly expressed in the style of his colouring. Rubens, as a colourist, might be called the painter of light, as Rembrandt is the painter of darkness. With Rubens, every thing is imbued with the pure element of broad light; the different colours are brought close together in luxuriant contrast; but in their harmonious relation to each other they celebrate a common triumph. Thus many of his large pictures, for instance, the 'Assumption of the Virgin' in the cathedral of Antwerp, may be said to produce the same effect as a symphony, in which the united sounds of all the instruments blend together joyously, divinely, mightily. No other painter has ever known how to produce such a full and satisfactory tone of light, such a deep *chiaroscuro* united with such general brilliancy. Few can be compared to him in the admirable gradations in the keeping of the whole, and in the manner in which each variety of surface is distinctly pronounced; the colouring of his flesh in particular has such a vivid transparency of tone—such a glow of life—that it is easy to understand how Guido Reni should have been struck with wonder upon beholding a picture of Rubens for the first time, and exclaim, 'Does this painter mix blood with his colours?' The creative fancy of Rubens was capable of conceiving every possible variety of subject at all fitted for the pencil, and the sphere was indeed ample from which his remarkable cultivation of mind enabled him to select. Thus he painted subjects from the Bible, from the legends of saints, from ancient and modern history, and from classical mythology; portraits, and conversation pieces; battle, and hunting pieces; grotesques and landscapes. With regard to fertility of invention, Raphael and Albert Durer are the only modern painters who can be compared with him. There is the greatest difference, however, between Raphael and Rubens in this respect, as Baron von Rumohr has well remarked; for the peculiarity of Raphael consisted principally in the perfect comprehension of his subject, and in proving on the canvass that he had penetrated into its inmost signification; whereas Rubens made every subject conform to his own most one-sided nature, and he accordingly treated all such as were foreign to it in a most capricious manner. Therefore it is, that while all the works painted by Rubens himself bear the true stamp of genius, and captivate us by the originality and freshness of thought exhibited in them, as well as by the masterly keeping, the vigour and glow of the colouring, and the talent displayed in the treatment altogether, yet the gratification we derive from them is ever in proportion to the harmony which existed between the subject and his own natural disposition. To the man's individual nature we may trace the most striking characteristics of the painter,—his turn for dramatic conception, his loose and sketchy treatment. To the jovial, buoyant hilarity of his temper, we owe his decided taste for the powerful, the coarse, the sensual, which allowed him but seldom to

approach to a finer appreciation of form, and, only in some few instances, to the dignified expression of elevated and noble, or even of soft and gentle characters. In truth, he was so little able to divest himself of those impressions of the human form which had been early engrafted on his mind in his native country, that even when he copied from other masters—for instance, from Leonardo da Vinci—he unconsciously translated all the heads in his Flemish manner, and gave to the other parts of the body that amplitude and heaviness of character which was usual to him. Generally speaking, it is impossible to derive unmixed pleasure from those works of Rubens in which the subjects are taken from the sacred writings, where so much of the effect depends on the elevated expression of moral beauty, sanctity, purity, and calm beatitude; even in the treatment of subjects from the mythology of the ancients, indelibly associated in our minds with the idea of divine gracefulness and delicacy of form, Rubens was seldom successful: not only was he naturally deficient in the perception of such qualities, but here more particularly, his rash and rapid treatment, the want of study, defective drawing in the figure, and a capricious and unquiet arrangement of the drapery, are frequently and disagreeably felt. His representations of the Madonna but seldom, and his representations of the Redeemer scarcely ever, excite those ideas which we should consider appropriate and worthy of those divine subjects.

After mentioning some noble exceptions to his last remark, Dr. Waagen proceeds to describe in detail a number of Rubens's *chefs-d'œuvre*, in the various classes of subjects in which his pencil luxuriated. The description is accompanied by valuable critical observations.

Mrs. Jameson's notes are written in a very lively style, evince her usual acumen, and communicate much interesting information, supplementary to the text. We could not help smiling at the highly characteristic comment appended to Dr. Waagen's account of the "atrocious" picture, in which Rubens has represented women defending themselves from violence "by biting and scratching." But (we end our notice as we began it) Mrs. Jameson is quite right.

A Letter to the Right Hon. C. W. W. Wynn, M.P. &c. &c., on the Danger to which the Constitution is Exposed from the Encroachments of the Courts of Law. By Sir Graves Chamney Houghton, K.H. M.A. F.R.S. &c. &c. Pp. 50. London, 1840. Allen and Co.

THIS is a very able pamphlet on the late struggle in which the House of Commons was engaged with the publisher of "Harriet Wilson" and his attorney; of which Sir Graves Houghton takes an enlarged and highly constitutional view. Besides its application to the question at issue, it presents some striking passages in the course of its argument, which we feel disposed to exemplify for their separate value.

"The study of law, in which the whole fiction of the feudal system is still retained, being the necessary preparation of our statesmen, they seem to be always under its guiding influence. Hence the anxiety of those who brought about the revolution of 1688 to make it appear legitimate as well as just."

The balance of power in a limited monarchy can only be kept right by a nicely poised opposition. A wise and constitutional monarch, therefore, will give each of the opposing parties its fair share of action and influence. He may feel quite assured, that whatever party is in, it will, whatever may have been its previous pledges to the contrary, lean to the interests of the crown: and, for the

same reason, the people will find their interests warmly taken up by the party in opposition. Where this principle is not attended to, the party that has been long excluded must carry on the business of government under the most adverse circumstances; and be driven to the employment of measures hostile to its own feelings, and to the best interests of the state. The alternate possession of power, therefore, by either party, should never exceed a few years. The monarch ought to feel that his own welfare, and with it that of the constitution, must be compromised, sooner or later, by a predilection for any particular party; for he would create an oligarchy, that would eventually tie him hand and foot.

The attempt to assume the right of questioning every authority in the realm, however high its station, cannot but create much confusion, as well as great impediments to public business; and that, too, at a period of considerable difficulty, as regards the foreign and domestic relations of the country. Besides, the judges of the Court of Queen's Bench should have remembered, that they had proved themselves to be no more infallible than the rest of mankind; and as so many of their decisions had been reversed, in which they were all unanimous, it was no more than became considerate men to hesitate before they assumed so new and, to say the least, so doubtful a jurisdiction.

The attempt of courts of law to extend their jurisdiction is not rare; but on all occasions should be steadfastly resisted, or public affairs would from time to time be brought into irretrievable confusion. It is not long since the then King's Court established in the town of Bombay attempted to extend its authority over the whole presidency; thereby causing the greatest alarm among the native population, and much inconvenience to the local government. In such cases, there is an *esprit de corps*, that supports and misleads those who have the hardihood to make the attempt; and the necessary fictions, by which the authority of courts of law is extended from time to time, create a perpetual craving for enlarged and real jurisdiction. To this common failing, which has been the cause of so much mischief, we may likewise add the peculiar views that belong to a lawyer's mind, from the nature of its training. Nothing can be seen by him except through a legal medium; and when he hears of any difference between man and man, he immediately reduces it to a case of libel, of covenant, of debt, of assumpsit, or some other of the various actions of the law. He is like the calculating boy, who, when taken for the first time to the theatre, employed himself in counting the audience, instead of attending to the play. His eye distorts every form, and changes every colour; and if by any chance a ray of pure sunshine shoots abroad the gloom of his court, so unusual and unwelcome an intruder blinds him by its dazzling splendour. We occasionally find some few fortunate individuals, whose visual organs can adapt themselves to the necessities of courts of law, and to the ordinary scenes of life; but the case is so rare, that scarcely any lawyer, however eminent, has made a great statesman. The mind of a lawyer is sharp and keen enough; and may be compared to a fork, which can only take up solids of a particular kind: but it wants the universal capacity of a spoon, which can not only take up all kinds of solids, but fluids as well. Should a subject occur into which he cannot stick at least one prong of his fork, he has no means of conveying it to his understanding. He can only deal with persons; and he is, consequently, unable to discriminate between a man in his individual and his collective capacity. He knows that the members of both houses, as subjects of the realm, are amenable to the law; but he knows not that the bodies they compose cannot be considered as John-a-nokes or John-a-stiles; that is, either as plaintiff or as defendant.

The really weak spot in the British constitution consists in the encroaching spirit and contumacy that may be successfully exhibited by the judges, under circumstances like those that have just occurred; and which, so far from being checked by public opinion, may, through ignorance of the constitution and the nature of the case, be fomented by popular clamour. So much for all the cant respecting 'the march of intellect in the nineteenth century!' It is clear, that what knowledge gains in surface it loses in depth.

The force of the last axiom, so happily expressed, is worth a voluminous essay. With regard to Sir Graves's main argument, it seems to us to be fallacious in this—that it treats interference with or opposition to the House of Commons as if it were the whole legislative power, whereas it is only a third portion. Thus:—

"Judges have so far forgotten themselves, as to claim superiority over the legislature! It would, indeed, be a strange confusion of right and wrong, if the Houses of Lords and Commons could be supposed to have made themselves amenable to the jurisdiction of the courts of law, as if they were subject to royal caprice! If, in 1689, parliament became the judge and protector of these courts of law, how is it amenable to them in 1839?"

Lord Denman "thought, if they might judge from what was said elsewhere, the object was to insult the courts of law, as if they were fit to be treated with any powers which might be brought to bear against the House of Commons. Now, he asked their lordships whether the judicial authority deserved such a stigma? Here it is clear that the author of these sentiments had

totally forgotten, or supposed his hearers had, that the House of Commons was a master, and himself but a servant, and that, as such, respect and obedience were his first duties."

And, again:—

The judges "must feel that, by doing so, they can give no man occasion to blame their conduct. But fully as they are prepared to do their duty, they are bound to remember that the jurisdiction of any court appointed by the sovereign can only extend over the subjects of the realm; and that should a case occur in which a subject thinks he has reason to complain of their common master, 'the absolute, supreme power of the state,' that is to say, of the legislature, or one of its estates, the Court of Queen's Bench has no power to enter upon its consideration. Were that court fitted by the constitution for so high an office, it would then be higher than the legislature, and possess the power of questioning it in all its acts, and stand in the very contradictory position of having the power to rule it at its pleasure, and yet of being bound by the laws it frames!"

"That court has no more right to make the legislature, or any of its estates, amenable to its jurisdiction, than it has to frame the laws of the land: indeed, the attempt on its part must expose it to as much ridicule among reflecting men as if it had given judgment against the Emperor of Morocco."

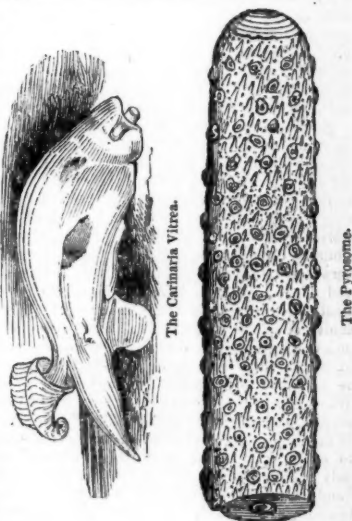
But, after all, the point at issue seems to be whether the three estates having made laws, each individual of these three (or the whole triunion while the laws exist) is separately protected from their administration? We are not wise enough to solve the difficulty.

BENNETT'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE.

[Concluding notice.]

WE have now to conclude our review of this work, which we do with our promised extract relating to the molluscs, so interesting to natural history:—

Molluscs.—"Carinaria Vitrea."—Our first acquaintance with this extraordinary *Heteropod* (which would appear to hold a station intermediate to testaceous and naked molluscs) occurred off Pitcairn's Island, by the capture of two living examples near the surface of the deep blue water which surrounds that coast.



We subsequently met with specimens in other parts of the Pacific, from lat. 3° to 39° N., and from 2° to 26° S.; and also in the Straits of Timor. The average length of the species is two inches. Its structure is gelatinous, sufficiently firm (being invested in a stout membrane), and semi-pellucid. The body is smooth, cylindrical, arched, and tapers to a point at the tail. It has, in its interior, an

opaque oval viscus of an amber colour. The head is chiefly to be distinguished by a circular mouth, and a black speck, planted on each of its sides, and which would appear to perform the office of an eye. The mouth has projecting lips, and contains a long, hard, and cylindrical tube, or tongue, provided on its inner margin with short rigid hooks, which are alternately projected and returned by a rapid rotatory motion: the protrusion and retraction of the hooks being attended by similar changes in the tube itself. An erect cylindrical fin arises from the posterior third of the back, and a broader fin occupies the corresponding surface of the abdomen. The dorsal fin is covered by an exceedingly delicate and beautiful vitreous shell, of small size, perfectly transparent, and shaped like a cornucopia. Some few examples of the same species, which we obtained, were destitute of this shell; and their naked dorsal fin bore no appearance of its having been recently present. I have also found the shell alone, floating empty on the surface of the sea.

"The *Pyrosome* is, strictly speaking, an aggregate tunicary, or body composed of an aggregation of small animals, perforated at both extremities, united at their bases, and enclosed in a common membrane, or tunic. I shall, however, for the convenience of description, speak of it as of one complete animal. The average size of the specimens we procured was from four to six inches in length, and from one and a half to two inches in circumference. The body is cylindrical, and rounded and impervious at one extremity, while the opposite is flat, and perforated in its centre by a circular orifice, conducting to a capacious straight tube that occupies the interior of the body. It is colourless, and its surface is studded with pearly tubercles, perforated at their apices, and spread with many papillous appendages. The structure of the body is gelatinous, and contains myriads of small brown specks, in which the phosphorescent power, for which this mollusc is so remarkable, would appear to reside. When assembled in the sea, and, as is usually the case, near the surface, these creatures present a gorgeous spectacle; their vivid phosphoric light being sufficient to illuminate, not only the extent of ocean they occupy, but also the air above, rendering all surrounding objects visible during the darkest night, and permitting a book to be read on the deck, or near the stern-cabin windows of a ship. They are occasionally collected together in incredible numbers: on two occasions, at midnight, in lats. 2° and 4° N., Atlantic Ocean (when I had the good fortune to see these molluscs in their zenith of splendour), the ship sailed over many miles of water which they had illuminated, and in which they were so densely crowded as to be taken to any amount by buckets or nets. When captured, they exhibited no signs of animation, and emitted a peculiar half-fishy odour. When kept in a vessel of sea-water, and allowed to be tranquil, their light was withheld, or only sparingly displayed; but when they were handled, or the water in which they were contained was agitated, their body instantly became one blaze of phosphoric light, which, upon close examination, could be observed to proceed from myriads of luminous dots, occupying the situations of the small brown specks noticeable in the fleshy structure of the mollusc. Upon the irritating cause* being removed, the phosphoric light gradually expired, and the pyrosome remained in darkness until again disturbed, when it once more illuminated surrounding objects with its vivid gleam; and this was repeated until after the death of the animal, when no luminous effect could be reproduced. When living specimens were immersed in fresh water, they not only existed for some hours, but emitted a constant light; even after they had been so much enfeebled as to cease to give light in sea-water, or after they had been seriously mutilated, their phosphorescence invariably reappeared when they were put into fresh water, which appears to act as a peculiar stimulus in reproducing the phosphoric light of these, as well as of most other marine luminous animals. The pyrosome does not communicate its luminosity to water, nor to any object in contact with it (like many luminous medusæ), its body being enveloped in a membrane that has no luminous secretion. But when the mollusc is cut open in water, some of the brown specks before-mentioned will escape, and, diffusing themselves through the fluid, shine independent of the animal: in this respect, as well as in their structure and colour, bearing some resemblance to the luminous scale on the abdomen of the small fire-fly of Bengal. When this mollusc is first removed from the sea, the orifice, or mouth, at one extremity of its body, is nearly as wide as the tube within; but, should the body be much handled, and kept long in water, this orifice closes by the contraction of a smooth membrane that surrounds it like a sphincter, water being at the same time retained within the cavity of the body. This contraction of the sphincter membrane is the only movement I have seen the pyrosome effect; although it is said that the creature has also the power of contracting and dilating its entire body."

With these extracts we conclude our notice of a publication which well deserves to be ranged on the shelf with our best and most instructive Voyages.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Acheen, and the Ports of the North and East Coasts of Sumatra; with incidental Notices of the Trade in Eastern Seas, and the Aggressions of the Dutch. By John Anderson, Esq. late of the E. I. C. Civil Service, Pinang, Singapore, and Malacca. 8vo. pp. 240. London, 1840. Allen and Co.

A MAP and succinct description by one who has served in these parts makes us better acquainted with Sumatra, Banca, Lingin, Billiton, &c. &c. than when they are casually mentioned in larger works; but the chief interest of this volume lies in its pointing out our past relations with Sumatra, and directing attention to the means, apparently systematically, pursuing by the Dutch government to assume an ascendancy in the Eastern seas injurious to English commerce and power.

Maxon's Edition of Beaumont and Flether. (With Mr. George Darley's Introduction).

WE have now before us eight more parts (VII. to XV.) of this clearly printed and handsome edition. One other part completes it. Need we hint what treasures of poetry and genius are here garnered up? No! generations have acknowledged and will acknowledge them.

Timon, but not of Athens. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1840. Saunders and Otley.

WHEN we read the first few pages of this book, we at once acknowledged the talent of the writer, and looked forward to a literary and mental treat from his labours. But as we advanced the scene changed,—not that the talent failed,—but we found we were engaged on a series of fierce democratical diatribes against

the church, the aristocracy, the government, the legislature, the religious party called saints, and, in short, against nearly all existing society and established institutions. Having run this muck, we can only report that the author is a person of no common ability; and that, in the course of his work, he introduces an account of the early differences between the late Queen Caroline and George IV., which he seasons with the strongest revellings of the latter.

The Poems of Schiller Explained; with a Glossary, &c. by Edmund Bach, of the British Museum. Pp. 141. (London, Black and Armstrong.)—Though purporting to be only a key to Schiller's Poems, this little volume contains much of interest for the German scholar and critic; and at the same time suggests the value of poetical thoughts and expressions which are applicable to all languages. As illustrations of the poet himself, every page may be consulted with advantage; but, perhaps, the higher use of the book will be the glimpses of insight it gives us into the copious language in which he wrote.

Eighty French Comments, &c. by J. Tournier. Pp. 68. (London, Templeman.)—A very small tome, with some useful observations on the French language.

A Letter to the Human Race, by a Brother. Pp. 91. (London, Wilson.)—Such a letter should be prepaid. It is meant for the lower orders, and mingles many objectionable with unobjectionable principles and opinions.

Histoire d'Angleterre, par M. A. Roche. 8vo. 2 vols. (London, Dulau and Co.)—This history, compiled from the best English historians, and those of France who have treated of English history, is written principally for the consideration of youth, and is, in fact, a résumé of the lectures which the author has delivered as Professor d'Histoire. The language is good, and the statements and opinion fairly impartial. The work, therefore, will be found serviceable for readers who desire at the same time to become acquainted with the history, and improve their knowledge of the French tongue.

A Letter to Dr. Chambers, &c. relating to the Nature and Proper Treatment of Gout, by Sir C. Scudamore, M.D. F.R.S. &c. pp. 59. (London, Longman and Co.)—No one has written more effectually on the subject of gout than Sir C. Scudamore, and those who suffer from that painful disease will hasten to read this new exposition of his further experience. He approves of colicumb, not as a specific, but sparingly administered as an auxiliary to temperance in diet, varying with every individual constitution. Other points of interest are also raised and explained: the result of which is that there is no specific remedy, though the disorder may be much alleviated by skilful treatment.

The Sacred Epistles Explained, &c. by Jeannette W. Dave. Pp. 216. (London, Smith, Elder, and Co.)—“Familiarised for young Christians,” with geographical and descriptive notices at once useful and pleasant.

The Festivals of the Lord, &c. by Morris J. Raphael. Pp. 156. (London, Sherwood and Co.)—An account of the Jewish festivals all over the world, one of the immediate objects of which will show that the horrid crime alleged against the Israelites at Damascus can have no foundation in any of their rites or ceremonies.

Popular Outlines on the Principles and Practice of Homoeopathy, by F. Blagdon Harral, Surgeon. Pp. 13. (London, T. Hurst.)—This little book is like a homoeopathic dose of publications. It is very small, but gives a favourable outline of the doctrine supported by Mr. Harral.

Dictionary of the Art of Printing. No. 1. By W. Savage. 8vo. pp. 48. (London, Longman and Co.)—The commencement of a very useful work, to the progress of which we shall look with interest. There is much curious information in it.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

APRIL 8. The Rev. Dr. Buckland, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read:—1. ‘On the great Fault called the Horse, in the Forest of Dean Coalfield,’ by Mr. Biddle. The term fault is not employed in this case to designate the dislocation, but the thinning out of a stratum; and the horse is a mass of sandstone, which occupies the place of a portion of a coal-seam called the Coleford High Delf, or the 23d from the surface. Its extent is not known, but it has been traced for about two miles; and its breadth has been ascertained to be from 270 to 340 yards. On each side of the horse the thickness of the seam varies greatly, in consequence of the upper surface presenting considerable depressions, called by the colliers “lows,” but the under surface is generally level. The roof of the seam is formed of the same sandstone as the horse, and the floor is composed of shale. The coal under the lows is generally deteriorated.

* Friction is not the only cause of the pyrosome emitting its light; for the slightest touch on one part of its body is sufficient to illuminate the whole."

rated by an admixture of particles of the sandstone of the roof, but it contains no erratic boulders, angular fragments, or gravel. In the sandstone forming the roof there are ferruginous sandstone concretions or nodules, some of which are separable from the matrix; also angular fragments of imperfect casts of vegetables; and in some parts of the horse and lows is a sandstone breccia, formed of quartz pebbles, fragments of coal, ironstone, and vegetable remains. The sandstone extends to the surface in the portion of the field immediately over that in which the horse has been traced; there are, however, no indications above-ground by which the fault can be followed beyond the limit to which it has been explored in the workings. In its under-ground character the horse is similar to the "washes" in many coal districts; but it differs in not lying beneath the bed of a river, or in the bottom of a valley, or extending upwards through the strata and shewing itself on the surface. Future workings must determine whether in other portions of the field the horse affects the overlying beds of coal; but in the Park End Colliery, situated 50 fathoms above the Coleford High Delf seam, and about two miles to the south-east of the fault, in the direction of its probable prolongation, a great succession of lows has been met with. Respecting the origin of the Coleford High Delf seam, and the phenomena presented by the horse as well as by the surface of the coal, Mr. Biddle is of opinion that the seam was accumulated in a deep, tranquil lake; and that the total excavation of the coal at the "fault," and its partial removal in the vicinity, were effected during a drainage of the lake, and previously to the deposition of the overlying sandstone, the "horse" being due to the action of the principal stream, and the undulations on the surface of the coal to minor collateral currents. The paper was illustrated by a beautiful model, constructed by Mr. Sopwith.—2. 'Remarks on the Structure of the Royal George, and on the Condition of the Timber and other Materials brought up during the Operations of Col. Pasley in 1839,' by Mr. Creuze. The Royal George was the first ship built on the improved dimensions recommended in consequence of an inquiry into the superior sailing qualities of the vessels of war in the French and Spanish services. She was commenced at Woolwich in 1746, launched in 1756, and after bearing a very high character as a ship-of-war for twenty-six years, was accidentally sunk at Spithead on the 29th of August, 1782. From an examination of the various portions of the wreck recovered by the operations of Col. Pasley, Mr. Creuze states that the great agent in the work of destruction during the fifty-seven years since the loss of the Royal George has been "the worm," which has gradually, by its innumerable perforations on every exposed portion of the woodwork, reduced it to such a state as to enable the constant wash of the tides to abrade it layer by layer. The portion of the ship which has been thus removed is considered to be the whole of the upper part, including the topsides above the line of the middle-deck ports. The portions of the recovered timbers which had been buried in the mud were perfectly sound; and Mr. Creuze is of opinion that the bottom of the ship, which is thus protected, and too deeply imbedded to be affected by the explosions, will last for ages. Some portions of the copper have undergone so little change that several whole sheets average the same weight per square foot as those now used in the royal

navy; and this state of preservation, Mr. Creuze believes, may be accounted for on the principle applied by Sir Humphry Davy to the protection of the sheathing of ships. The cast-iron guns which have been recovered were so much softened as to be easily abraded by the finger-nail to the depth of one-sixteenth and one-eighth of an inch, but they gradually hardened on exposure to the atmosphere. The brass guns are as sharp in their ornamental castings, and apparently as sound, as at their first immersion. A piece of two-and-a-half inch cable-layed cordage, made from a specimen of tarred rope (possibly part of the ship's old junk for sea-store, or of one of the cables used in an attempt to weigh her soon after she sunk), was found to bear 21cwt. 3qrs. 7lbs.; while a similar cable, made from yarn spun in 1830, bore only 20cwt. 1qr. 7lbs. Mr. Creuze then stated some peculiarities in the structure of the Royal George, and concluded with a descriptive catalogue of a series of specimens which accompanied the paper.—3. A letter by Mr. C. Hullmandel, 'On the Subsidence of the Coast near Puzzuoli.' In the year 1813, Mr. Hullmandel resided for four months in the Capuchin Convent at the entrance of the town of Puzzuoli, and situated between the road from Naples and the sea. The oldest friar, then ninety-three years of age, and styled "il molto reverende," stated that the road, when he was a young man, passed on the seaward side of the convent, but that, from the gradual subsiding of the soil, it had been found necessary to alter the course. While Mr. Hullmandel resided in the convent, the refectory and the entrance-gate were from six to twelve inches under water whenever strong westerly winds prevailed; but thirty years before such events never took place. The small wharf at Puzzuoli is also constantly under water during westerly winds. These circumstances, Mr. Hullmandel thinks, prove a gradual subsidence of the soil; because it is not probable that the builders of the convent and of the wharf would have so placed their structures as to have exposed them to inundations.—4. 'A Notice on Borneo Proper,' by Mr. Tradescant Lay. Borneo Proper consists, as far as the author's observations extended, of sandstone; but near the mouth of the river, flowing past Borneo city, is an islet which yields coal, and is called by the natives Palu Cheonin, or Mirror Island,—in allusion, Mr. Lay supposes, to the brightness of the coal. Lignite is also found in sandstone at a place called Kianggi, situated in a deep valley or ravine, not far from Borneo city. The bed extends obliquely from one bank to the other, at an angle of about 45°, with a rivulet, and it is stated to be more than two yards in breadth. The whole of the peninsula constituting this part of Borneo is formed of sharp steep hills, which gradually become more lofty towards the south-west, but upon the main land on the other side of the river the ridges are supposed to range at right angles to the mountains. Their composition is a very soft sandstone, alternating with clay; but at one point, on the summit of a hill, Mr. Lay noticed the outcrop of a hard red sandstone, composed of angular and rounded masses of quartz, black mica, and a ferruginous cement.—5. 'On some Geological Specimens from Syria,' by Mr. Williamson. The specimens were collected by Mr. Heugh, who also furnished the author with a few notes respecting the localities whence they were obtained. The chief points are the vicinity of Beyroot, and Gebel Suneen, which rises immediately above that town, and constitutes the south-

eastern ridge of the Lebanon range. The formations comprising the tongue of land on which Beyroot stands are a hard cream-coloured limestone, containing layers of flints, and an overlying soft calcareous rock, used in masonry on account of its withstanding the shocks of earthquakes better than the compact limestone. The structure of Gebel Suneen is as follows:—Compact limestone, forming the base of the mountain, 1200 to 1500 feet; coarse silicious conglomerate, containing seams of lignite, 800 feet; compact limestone, abounding in fossil shells, 2000 feet; a ferruginous rock, formed of grains of sand thickly coated with hydrated oxide of iron, 50 feet; a seam of oysters, which may be traced around the mountain; and compact limestone, 100 feet, forming the summit of the mountain.—Mr. Williamson does not venture to define precisely the age of these rocks; but from the general resemblance of the shells he believes that it may be considered to be nearly that of the cretaceous series. The collection contains specimens of *Clypea brevissima* from near Tupoli, on the road to the Cedars, about thirty miles north of Beyroot.

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, 19th.—Read, a paper by Mr. Pollock, 'On the Application of Dr. Black's Law of Capacity to the Explanation of Electrical Phenomena.' The law was applied to the explanation of the phenomena of the Leyden jar, of Zamboni's pile, and of the secondary wire: the first set included the charge of the Leyden jar, comprising induction and insulation, and the discharge, with the phenomenon of the shock; the second, the action of Zamboni's pile dependent upon induction, not conduction; induction the effect of expansion or contraction from the motion of latent heat; insulation in a ratio with expansibility, as in the case of air, and the action of the pile while charging and discharging; the third, the disturbance of the equilibrium of the latent heat of a secondary wire by the primary current. These were the several divisions and subdivisions of the subject. The conclusion Mr. Pollock draws from an examination of the affections of the latent heat in the several instances discussed is, that "there can be no separate or distinct electric fluid but the latent heat of bodies." Because, he says, by change of capacity in the Leyden jar, Zamboni's pile, and the secondary wire, the equilibrium of their latent heat is disturbed, and on the restoration of the equilibrium taking place through the human body, the electric phenomenon of the shock is felt. This is true of the disturbance and restoration of the equilibrium of the electric fluid, upon which the phenomena of the charge and discharge seem to depend. But it appears to us, on a slight consideration of the subject whilst writing these remarks, an assumption not at all borne out by facts, that in either of the cases stated the latent heat of the bodies is increased or diminished. Electricity has been proved to be, and especially in the case of the Leyden jar, all deposited on the surface of bodies. This requires no change of capacity in the substances upon which the fluid may be accumulated. And, besides, if the latent heat of bodies be increased or diminished, a change of condition—a sensible change—would necessarily ensue; that is, in relation to solidity, plasticity, fluidity, or the gaseous state. Doubtless, however, Mr. Pollock has well considered the subject in all its bearings.—Read, also, 'An Account of a new and cheap Method of obtaining Copies of Medals, Coins, &c., by the Galvanic Process.'

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

FRIDAY, 15th.—Mr. Macilwain 'On Respiration, and its Relation to Animal Temperature.' The opinion that the lungs of living beings generate heat by the chemical action which is supposed in them to occur during respiration by the absorption of oxygen, and by the expulsion of carbonic acid, has been entertained by men of great eminence. It is, however, by no means proved; nor is it, according to Mr. Macilwain, tenable. He conceives that their operation is to regulate and adjust, not to generate, heat. The facts in support of this view are most numerous, and it is based on most extensive induction. Time, he observed, however, would only permit him, on this occasion, to enter upon a limited induction—to do little more than suggest for others' inquiry. And space will only allow of our touching very lightly this interesting subject. The facts brought forward strongest in support of the illustrious opinion were, the breathing of the frog through his skin during cold weather, but with his lungs also, if the temperature be raised; the torpor of the snail in extreme hot or cold weather, but with the remarkable difference that, in the former case, the lungs are in action, whilst in the latter they cease their functions; the similar effort of the skin and lungs to relieve the oppressed horse when first galloped, by the cooling effects of evaporation, and by the exposure of the blood to atmospheric influence; and, lastly, because of our limited space, the excessive heat of diseased lungs, which is only reconcilable to their operation being a cooling one when in healthy action. The subject was ably treated.—When Mr. Macilwain concluded, Mr. Faraday directed attention to a shot which had been received from Woolwich. Experiment had shewn that by filling a hollow iron shot with lead, its speed and force, when fired, were greatly increased; but a singular effect on the heavier metal was observed, the lead was found to have receded, to have been compressed into one half the space it occupied previously to being discharged from the gun. In the case exhibited, the iron case or shell had been filled with leaden bullets, round of course, but after being fired and the iron shell broken, it was seen that all the balls had coalesced, each sphere had become a polyhedron, and complete aggregation had ensued. This effect is doubtless attributable to the difference of inertia in the two metals, and to the instant of time that elapses before the inner metal is acted upon by the enormous force of the explosion.

MR. SPENCER ON SOLDERING METALS.

'On the Theory and Practice of Soldering Metals,' by Thomas Spencer.—The process of uniting lead to lead, and other metals, without solder, has recently attracted considerable attention. It was introduced into this country, and made public, about a month ago, from France, by the patentees. But it appears that, previously to this, Mr. Spencer had investigated the theory and practice of soldering; had discovered by ingenious reasoning and experiments the identical process; had given notice to the Liverpool Polytechnic Society of a paper on the subject; and had detailed the principles to a number of individuals, members of that Society, and to persons practically engaged in business requiring the process. The paper, however, was read on the 14th, and was published in "The Liverpool Journal" of Saturday last, the 16th May. Thus delay and untoward circumstances have again de-

prived Mr. Spencer of the fame of inventor or discoverer, although all who read his paper will be satisfied that his views, reasonings, and experiments, were original, and will award him the credit and praise due to his sagacity and success. The former case to which we have alluded is the electrolyte, as it has been since termed, the discovery of which has been attributed to Professor Jacobi of St. Petersburg, in consequence of his allusion to the elements of the process in a letter to Mr. Faraday, published in the "Philosophical Magazine" of September of last year, although Mr. Spencer had given notice of his paper to the British Association in August, but which was prevented being read for the reasons given in his pamphlet in October last. This publication described the whole process, and contained suggestions upon which most of the recent improvements of the electrolyte have been based. But enough upon this point: the important inventions, as yet in their infancy, will continue to benefit mankind long after the names of the inventors will have passed away; and this the more likely, as neither of the processes have been named Delbueckotype, Reichmündtype, Spencerotype, or Jacobitype; and each of these individuals will have had the satisfaction of believing that he had contributed to the knowledge of his race. The immediate subject, however, under notice is the union of metals without solder, and we avail ourselves of the details in "The Liverpool Journal" to give a brief sketch of the novelty. Mr. Spencer, from various experiments to investigate the philosophy of soldering, had observed that hydrogen was always present, and that too in a state of comparative freedom; and supposing that this gas was the predisposing cause of the adhesion in the process of soldering, it appeared highly probable that any substance that would admit of a still greater portion of hydrogen being set free by the soldering-iron, would, in a practical sense, answer the purpose still better than resin. He then proceeded to ascertain the substances having a chemical composition analogous to resin, and he found the following, which are arranged in a tabular form with reference to their relative value in free hydrogen:—

	Carbon.	Hydrogen.	Oxygen.	Hydrogen uncombined with Oxygen.
Pure naphtha.....	6	6	0	6
Bees' wax.....	13	11	1	10
Oil turpentine.....	13	10	1	9
Resin.....	13	11	2	9
Camphor.....	10	8	1	7

All these substances were employed for the purposes of soft soldering, and had superiority the one over the other, in proportion to the quantity of this gas liberated. This induced him, in the next experiments, to project a jet of hydrogen on the metals to be soldered, using the hot iron as ordinarily, and he at last succeeded in causing complete adherence between two metals when the gas was perfectly dry; but, in order to get rid of the hot iron altogether, the oxy-hydrogen flame was employed, the heat of which, however, was found too intense, until decreased by the super-addition of an equal portion of atmospheric air. And now, a stream of the gases thus diluted being ignited, and the flame directed on a piece of tin to be attached to a piece of sheet copper, adherence at once took place. Mr. Spencer next directed the flame on two pieces of lead, the edges being brought together; but found that the flame was far too intense, a hole being fused wherever the flame was directed, and apparent oxidation took place on the surface. To get rid of the intensity of the flame, he added a greater por-

tion of atmospheric air; and, on doing so, found it very much less intense: but, at the same time, it rapidly oxidised the surface of the lead, and adhesion between the two pieces took place very partially. It appeared now abundantly evident, that there was an absence of hydrogen, and, to supply the apparent deficiency, he added a portion of it to the gas-holder containing the mixed gases and the air, and directed an ignited stream of this mixture on the edges of two pieces of lead brought together, and found they were very neatly and expeditiously fused into one. He tried the same mixture on two pieces of copper, but found this combination of the gases not intense enough to fuse the edges together; but, at the same time, had no doubt but a well-regulated mixture would answer the desired object: and in this case, of course, oxygen would have to be added. Speaking of the French process, Mr. Spencer says "there is a slight difference in the method employed by M. Reichmond—it being, as far as I have seen, only applicable to fuse together the edges of lead—it being a mixture of hydrogen and atmospheric air only. To fuse together the harder metals will, I apprehend, require the adoption of my method of applying a greater amount of artificially acquired oxygen."

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

WORONZOW GREIG, Esq. in the chair.—Fellows were elected.—Read, 'Report of the Working of the Registration and Marriage Acts during the two Years, 1837-8 and 1838-9, in the Registration District of Manchester,' by William Johns, M.D. Superintendent-Registrar. In the returns made by parliament, Manchester is included in a division embracing several adjoining districts, among which is the contiguous town of Salford, with about twenty other hamlets or chapelrys, covering a space of 37,797 acres, and containing a population of 236,933. The number of births registered during the first year was 5458 (2792 males, 2666 females); and during the second year, 6358 (3303 males, 3055 females); being an increase of 900 on the former year. The proportion of males to females is as 51:582 to 48:418, giving an excess of male births 3:164, or rather more than 3½ per cent. During the two years, in 11,816 births there was one case only of triplets, and 127 of twins. The twins are in the ratio of 1:4748 in every hundred. Cuvier estimated the average of twin births at two in 1500. The registered deaths during the first year were 5611, and in the second year 6234; being an increase of 623. The males in the two years amounted to 6174, females to 5671. The proportion of males to females is as 52:123 to 47:877, being an excess of 4:246, or nearly 4½ per cent; the excess of male over female births is 3:164, or 3½ per cent, as has been stated: so that, although within a given period there are more males than females born, within the same period there is a greater proportion of male deaths than of male births. In the Manchester district the excess of male deaths above male births is 1:082 in every hundred. We pass over the comparative deficiency in the number of births registered; coroners' inquests about 4½ in every hundred deaths; deaths in public institutions; diseases; and suchlike details, being chiefly of local interest, and come to that part of the memoir referring to marks and signatures in the registers as indicating the state of education. These shew a difference in the class of persons signing the registry of births from those signing the registry of deaths; in the former case the marks

are in excess 22.32, in the latter case 18.14—a difference of about 2 per cent, owing, most likely, to the more frequent registry of births by the mothers, and shewing that these are less able to write. Uniting the births and deaths, the signatures are to marks as 39.8 to 60.2, exhibiting a lamentable deficiency in the state of public education, when only 40 persons in 100 are found capable of attesting some of the most important events in civil society! In the state of education in the different districts there is a yet more marked difference. In Ancosts the proportion of signatures is only 26 per cent, or nearly three out of four persons incapable of writing! In London Road, 34; in St. George's, 43; in Deansgate, 44; and in Market Street, nearly 60. It is not easy to explain these discrepancies. It is a fact worthy of notice, that the signatures in attestation of the solemnisation of marriages exceed the attestations by marks; the difference is 10 per cent in favour of signatures. These facts would lead to the inference that the parties forming marriages are generally a better instructed and higher class than the average of the population, or that they are usually at a time of life when the effects of an early education have not been erased by disease and neglect. Some conversation followed the reading of the paper.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

APRIL 27th. The Marquess of Northampton in the chair.—Signor Gasparo Fossati, architect to the Emperor of all the Russias, was elected a corresponding member. The Duke di Serradifalco acknowledged his election.—Signor Bolzano and Herr Carl Tottie presented donations.

—Mr. Fowler exhibited some remains of Roman work recently discovered in the City.—An essay was read by Mr. George Alexander 'On the Classification of Egyptian Architecture.'

The writer endeavoured, by some of the existing buildings, the dates of which are known, to apportion particular styles, or peculiarities of design, to particular dynasties.

—Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Hamilton, and Sir Gardner Wilkinson, bore part in a long conversation on the subject.—Mr. Godwin, jun. read a paper 'On the Origin of the Vertical Line in the Buildings of Ancient Rome, and the Return to the Use of the Horizontal Line exhibited in the Palazzi of Modern Italy.'

PARIS LETTER.

Academy of Sciences, May 19, 1840.

MAY 11.—The proceedings commenced by the election of a president for the remainder of the year, in the room of M. Poisson; and the choice of the Academy fell almost unanimously on M. Poncelet. M. Bessel, Director of the Observatory of Königsberg, was elected foreign corresponding member.

M. Puissant presented the second volume of his "Description Géométrique de la France," composed by him from the memoirs of the engineers whose surveys he directed. M. de Blainville read a long report on a supplementary memoir by M. Juville, on the structure of the brain.—A letter was read from M. Leone Pilla, the learned Italian geologist, to M. Elie de Beaumont, in which he declared that he renounced his opposition to the theory of craters of elevation, in consequence of his having examined the extinct volcano of Bocca-moufina. Here there was a vast circular crater greatly truncated, and surrounded by parasitic cones, in the midst of the Apennines. In the middle of this crater was a plain, and in the midst of this again, a conical or dome-shaped

hill, upon which was the village that gave its name to the volcano. In the great outer crater there were no currents of lava, nor any of the characteristics of craters now in activity. He considered it to be a true crater of elevation.—M. Fontan, who has already published the result of his examination of the mineral waters of the Pyrenees, has lately been visiting Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, and Savoy: he now addressed to the Academy the observations he had made on the mineral waters of those countries. With regard to the sulphureous waters, he inferred that the causes of their being sulphureous were accidental, and arose from the disoxygenation of a sulphate, commonly of calcium or magnesia, sometimes of soda, by means of organic matters in a state of decomposition; and that all the sulphureous springs he had examined were from four to five times weaker than those of the Pyrenees, the waters of Scheinbach excepted.—M. Rivière addressed a memoir to the Academy on the strata of the palæotheric group of La Vendée, forming part of his general description of the geological structure of that part of France. He shewed in it that this group is represented in La Vendée by nothing more than slips of the miocene period, and of the eocene, such as at the Grande Cheverière and La Gariopière, for the former; and at the island of Noirmoutiers, at Bouin, and Sallairtaine, for the other. There are no igneous rocks in La Vendée to account for the upheaving of the palæotheric formation; but those of the eocene period were observed to accord in their general inclination with those of the island of Corsica, viz. from north to south; while those of the miocene period agreed with the Western Alps, and dip towards S.S.W.—Count Demidoff communicated a note on the temperature of the Crimea, and other adjacent parts of Russia. The mean temperature for the last fourteen years had been 9° 34' of the centigrade scale.—Some improvements in the fixing of photographic impressions was communicated by M. Choiselet.

At a former sitting, a memoir was read from M. Baudremont, on the application of the specific heat of bodies to the determination of their atomic weight, in which the author declared his conviction that the method of cooling, to determine caloric capacity, was not applicable except to a certain number of bodies. He conceived, also, that the elementary substances are not composed of atoms placed in immediate juxtaposition, but of divisible molecules.

M. Regnault read an elaborate memoir on the specific heat of simple substances. He commenced by an historical review of the labours already expended upon this subject, and dwelt much upon the law discovered by Dulong and Petit, a law which was now doubtful, on account of the anomalies found when the atomic weights, badly determined at the time of their experiments, were replaced by the real weights of bodies. As for the method of cooling, he considered it decidedly faulty. A description was then given of the experiments and apparatus, and the numbers found for the specific heats were tabularised. In one part of the table were the substances which M. Regnault had obtained perfectly pure, and of which the specific heats might be considered as having been determined exactly: in the other were the metals where the substances were not quite free from the admixture of other substances. Most of these metals were slightly carburetted, and their specific heat was therefore represented greater than it ought to be. However, to obtain an approximation to their heat when in a state of purity, he had deter-

mined the specific heat of iron, for example, in different states of carburation; viz. in that of steel, of fine metal, and of white metal. A similar method had been tried with most of the other metals. M. Regnault then explained several differences of numbers, as determined by himself, compared with those of Messrs. Dulong and Petit: he conceived that they had valued the atomic weights of the substances too highly. He himself had not, in all cases, adopted the atomic weights as determined by M. Berzelius: thus, he had taken the atomic weight of silver at just one half of what that illustrious chemist had done; while, on the other hand, he had made the number for bismuth 1330, instead of 887. The law of specific heat being once determined for certain substances, their atomic weights became much more easy to be fixed and corrected. Thus the atomic weight of uranium hitherto adopted was 2711, but according to the specific heat of that substance it ought to be reduced to 677.84; and the oxide of uranium, hitherto considered as a protoxide, became expressed by the formula UO. The atomic weight of carbon, as hitherto determined by Berzelius, had to be doubled; and this circumstance gave the following formulae:—

Oxide of Carbon	C O ₂
Oxalic acid	C O ₂
Carbonic acid	C O ₄

The neutral carbonates became subcarbonates, and the bicarbonates, neutral ones.

Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres. Sitting of May 8th.—M. G. Burnouf communicated numerous extracts of the Introduction to his translation of the "Bhagavata Purana," of which the three first books, with the Introduction, were printed early in February of this year, at the Imprimerie Royale, and which is shortly to appear by order of government. Setting out from the documents collected by Messrs. Colebrooke and Wilson, M. Burnouf endeavoured to prove that the Puranas contain an ancient portion of the cosmogonical and epic traditions of India; that these traditions have been successively modified by a spirit of sectarianism, and that they have assumed under this influence, which is comparatively modern, the form which they now possess. Several questions, relative to the originality and the antiquity of the sacred literature of India, are examined in this long and learned introduction of M. Burnouf, with all the skill and acumen for which he is so well known. In this introduction there are also contained some curious discussions on the Brahminical writings, especially on the "Bhazavata Purana."

M. d'Armandy communicated an essay on the methods adopted by the ancients for training elephants for battle, and on the effect which these enormous animals must have produced in the field.

Academy of Moral and Political Sciences.—Sitting of the 9th of May. M. Villermé reported that the committee for adjudicating the quinquennial prize of 5000 francs, founded by Baron Félix de Beaujour, for the best memoir on the means of relieving the misery of the poorer classes, especially in France, had not thought any of the memoirs sent in sufficiently good. Extracts from the three best were read: the observations contained in them turned much on the state of the poor in England and Ireland, the workhouse system, &c. The prize was declared to be still open for 1840.

Sitting of the 16th of May.—An animated discussion arose at this sitting between Messrs. Dupin and Dunoyer on the one side, and

Messrs. Passy and Blanqui on the other, as to the injury done to agricultural populations by the increase of manufactures and manufacturing populations. The former gentlemen complained of labourers being withdrawn from agricultural operations by the temptation of higher wages in towns. M. Blanqui replied that, if the agriculturist produced, and wished to sell, he must have a buyer, such as he could only find in the manufacturer. He quoted the examples of Sicily and Poland, two agricultural countries of great fertility, but no manufactures, and where the peasantry were very miserable. M. Passy said, the evil complained of could not be remedied: it attested the progress of riches of all kinds. As agriculture improved it stood in need of improved manufactures, and their joint advancement was inevitable.

Academy of Inscriptions and Belle Lettres.—M. Sedillot read a memoir shewing that the Arabian astronomer, Aboul Wefa, had determined the third inequality or variation of the moon, 600 years before Tycho Brahe, to whom the honour of this discovery has always been attributed. M. Sedillot supported his views on the authority of a passage in the Arabic MS., No. 1138, Bibl. Roy., several of the leaves of which bear the impression of a seal which proves the antiquity of the document. The legend of this seal is to the following effect:—*Ex thesauro librorum Sultani supremi Shah Rokh Behadar.* Two coins of the Sultan Shah, son of Tamerlane, for the discovery of which M. Sedillot professed himself indebted to M. Reinand, had given him the power of shewing their perfect identity with the seal in question. This gentleman also gave a notice of the various coins which are known of the Timurides of Transoxiana, in which he pointed out several blanks in this branch of the numismatic history of the East.

Académie Française.—This body has just awarded the two Gobert prizes for the best works on the history of France. The first, an annual rental of 9000 francs, has been given to M. Augustin Thierry for his new work, "Révélations Mérovingiennes précédées de Considérations sur l'Histoire de France"; and the second, a rental of 1000 francs, to M. Bazin, for his "History of Louis XIII." According to the terms of the bequest of M. Gobert, these rentals are to be held by those gentlemen until other works shall be produced by fresh competitors, and which may be judged by the Academy superior in merit to those for which the prizes have just been awarded. The Academy is bound to make an annual examination to this effect; but the task must be an extremely invidious one.

The Société de l'Histoire de France held its general annual assembly on the 11th of May. After the usual business and election of officers, M. Leroux de Lincy read a learned notice on the ancient poem or romance, "La Conquête de Jérusalem;" and M. Guadel, on a fortified town of the Bordelais, during the religious wars of the sixteenth century.

The Pontificia Accademia Romana di Archeologia celebrated on the 20th of April the anniversary of the foundation of Rome. All the classes of the Academy were assembled in the Giustiniani palace, and Monsignore Cadolini, archbishop of Edessa, pronounced a long and eloquent discourse.

The Emperor of Austria has appointed Count Renato Borromeo director of the Conservatory of Milan.—M. Brochant de Villiers, Inspector-General of Mines, and Member of the Academy of Sciences, died on the 16th of

May at Paris.—M. Planche, member of the Royal Academy of Medicine, and a very distinguished chemist, died a few days since.

We learn from Rome that a new and complete edition of all the Fathers is about to be commenced there, under the direction of Signor Castelli.—A Cabinet Encyclopedia is coming out in Paris on the same plan as that of London, many of the volumes being translations of such works as Herschel's, Kater's, &c.—Two very first-rate books of totally opposite kinds, and both equally valuable to the ladies, have just appeared. One is by Dr. Moreau, the first accoucheur in Europe, and it embodies the results of his practice, under the title of "Traité pratique des Accouchements;" it has produced a *grande sensation* in the medical world. The other work is that honest and excellent fellow Lablache's "Méthode complète de Chant," with a great number of exercises in it: this work forms a handsome folio, and is written with all the command of his subject, for which every body will give the *greatest* singer in the world full credit.—There is a series of politico-economical tracts coming out, something in the way of Miss Martineau's: they are entitled "Entretiens du Bonhomme Mathieu." Their author is M. Bonnaire, and the first number is on Commerce.—Madame Flora Tristan, the novelist, who was attempted to be murdered by her husband eighteen months ago, has written a work called "Promenades dans Londres," a sort of romantic and sentimental journey through the British metropolises.

Enigma.

Grande ho la bocca, e morde senza denti,
E ognun m'adopra con le proprie mani.
Son uno eppur son due, e in due soventi
Quel ch'è uno divido, e faccio in brani.
L'arte mi fece gli occhi a' piedi uniti,
E spesso agli occhi mi ritrovo i diti.

Answer to the last sciarada:—Ino-pia.

LITERARY AND LEARNED. UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, April 30.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelor in Civil Law.—Hon. and Rev. H. W. Bertie, Fellow of All Souls' College.

Masters of Arts.—Rev. F. T. New, St. John's College, Grand Compounder; E. B. Smith, Michel Fellow of Queen's College and Vinerian Scholar; Rev. J. Saunders, Rev. H. Moule, Queen's College; Rev. R. H. B. Lee, Lincoln College; T. H. Sheppard, E. A. Litton, Fellows of Oriel College.

May 14.—In Convocation, A. H. Haliburton, Esq., M.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, and the Rev. W. C. Gibbs, M.A. of Trinity College, Dublin, were admitted *ad eundem*.

In a Congregation the same day the following degrees were conferred:—*Bachelor in Divinity.*—Rev. R. Briscoe, Fellow of Jesus College.

Masters of Arts.—E. D. Tining, J. E. Bode, W. E. Pole, Students, Rev. E. Moore, Christ Church; S. E. Bathurst, Fellow, Rev. W. F. E. Knollys, Merton College; Rev. W. C. Hayward, Oriel College; Rev. G. Robinson, Balliol College; Rev. H. H. Brown, Corpus Christi College.

Bachelors of Arts.—C. Barton, Wadham College, Grand Compounder; G. Braithwaite, Grand Compounder, S. Lee, G. W. Cockerell, C. J. Penny, Queen's College; H. W. Acland, Christ Church; D. J. Cother, W. Feder, M. T. Latham, G. Antrobus, T. A. Kerhaw, Brasenose College; J. Compton, Merton College; H. Cobbe, H. Bowles, J. Bearcroft, G. Coryton, Oriel College; C. R. Davy, Balliol College; C. H. Browne, J. W. Davis, Worcester College; G. F. Master, University College; T. H. Britton, F. Courtenay, C. F. Baker, Exeter College; Rev. J. Irving, Queen's College, incorporated from Trinity College, Dublin.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THIS Society held its Seventeenth Anniversary on the 9th. The Right Hon. C. W. Williams Wynn, President, in the chair.—The annual Report of the Council was read, commencing with the ordinary financial statements and details of deaths, resignations, and new elections. The members whose deaths were particularly mentioned were—Ranjit Singh;

General Allard; Professor Bohlen; Canelly Venkata Lutchmah, a native of Madras, whose knowledge of languages, both Asiatic and English, has been applied by him to literary research to an extent very uncommon among Hindoos. The report also contained a most interesting memoir of James Prinsep, Esq., whose extraordinary attainments in so many, and apparently incompatible branches of knowledge, have been subjects of wonder and admiration to the scholars of Europe, but whose indefatigable zeal and unremitting labours had exhausted his powers at the early age of forty, while he was in the pursuit of those discoveries in Eastern antiquities, to which he had himself opened the way by his penetration in deciphering and reading inscriptions which had hitherto baffled all inquiries. Allusion was then made to the important discoveries made in Persia by Major Rawlinson, whose researches have already been noticed in our pages, and who has promised to send the Society the full results of his labours for publication. The successful progress of the labours of the Oriental Translation Committee was stated; and a detail was given of the valuable works now in course of printing and translation under the auspices of that distinguished body. The Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston, as chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, detailed the various matters that had engaged the attention of the Committee during the past year, which had for their object to procure information as to the moral and political changes which were going on in Turkey, Central Asia, India, and China. He also remarked on the gradual increase of interest which the public in England are acquiring on Asiatic matters, which are no longer avoided as though England had no sort of connexion with the Eastern world. It was understood that the right honourable gentleman would commit the substance of his interesting Report to writing, for the purpose of its being printed in the "Journal" of the Society. The report of the Committee of Commerce and Agriculture was then read by Colonel Sykes, and contained a summary of the principal operations of that body during the year. One of the subjects alluded to was the cultivation of cotton in India, on which they had printed valuable papers, by General Briggs, Dr. Lush, and Mr. Heath. This subject was undergoing investigation, and the result of an analysis of various cotton soils from different parts of Europe, Asia, and America, by Mr. Solly, would be published shortly. Papers on the production of sugar and cocoa-nut oil in Ceylon, on the improvement of Indian wool, on the wool of the Angora goat, on opium, safflower, silk, Indian tea, caoutchouc, &c., had been read before the Society. Some of them had been printed, and the rest would appear in due course. The thanks of the Society having been voted to the Council for their services, the right honourable the President rose to acknowledge it. He said that the Report just submitted from the Council met with his entire concurrence; and, although some might complain that their finances would not allow every thing to be done that could be wished, he saw no reason for despair. An interest had been aroused in England towards India which could not but produce the best results; and the recent advance of steam-navigation, which had brought a voyage to India within the time formerly occupied by a tour to Russia or the Mediterranean, would increase that interest. He then alluded to the extraordinary discoveries of Major Rawlinson; and thought that more would be done to make the literary world

aware of the value of the Society by the publication of such treasures in its "Journal" than could be done by any individual canvass. The right honourable the President then remarked on the progress of tea cultivation in India; and on the merits, generally, of the gentlemen in the East India Company's service, both civil and military, and said that they well deserved the encomium bestowed on them by Canning, of uniting the wisdom of statesmen with the research of scholars. Sir George Staunton proposed a vote of thanks to the President, whose exertions in favour of the Society were not damped by illness or infirmity. It was not the President's fault, certainly, if the endeavours made to obtain assistance from government had failed; nor would he (Sir George) stop to inquire why the expression of the interest felt by her majesty in the success of the institution had produced no results. But he was at least happy that they had been able to do so much without patronage; and he looked forward with confidence to a time when they should be able to do more. He then mentioned the paper on the commerce of China, by Mr. Ball, whose long residence in the country, and knowledge of Chinese affairs, gave an interest to his lucubrations which could be given only by a person who had been in, and had profited by, his situation. He thought the publication of the paper was, at this critical moment, most opportune, and would be a valuable guide in the formation of opinions on the matter at issue between us and the Celestial Empire. After the discussion of certain financial matters, and making a verbal alteration in one of the Society's regulations, the meeting proceeded to ballot for the council and officers for the ensuing year. The following gentlemen were elected into the Council in the room of those going out by rotation:—Sir Jeremiah Bryant, C.B.; Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.; J. M. Heath, Esq.; Sir Richard Jenkins, G.C.B. M.P.; Sir James L. Lushington, G.C.B.; the Rev. W. H. Mill, D.D.; William Newnham, Esq.; and Henry Wilkinson, Esq. All the officers of the preceding year were re-elected.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

THE Earl of Aberdeen, President, in the chair.—H.R.H. Prince Albert honoured the Society with his presence, and inscribed his name in their book as one of the Fellows of the Society.—Mr. Gage Rokewood communicated an account of the final examination of the barrows on the Barlow Hills, Essex; of the former excavations and discoveries at which place highly interesting accounts have, from time to time, been communicated by Mr. Rokewood to the Society, and printed in the "Archæologia." The results of the examination of the last barrow, where a further collection of Roman sepulchral remains, consisting of a large square glass jug, containing burnt human bones; a vessel of white glass (apparently a drinking glass), similar in shape to an apothecary's graduated measure; a beautifully formed bronze prefericulum and dish; a bronze lamp, cup, and patere of Samian ware, and several vases of baked clay, of various sizes and forms, most of which are in a remarkable state of preservation. The Prince examined these curious relics with much apparent interest.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Linnean (Anniversary), 1 P.M.; Geographical (Anniversary), 1 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8 P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 8 P.M.; Royal Botanic, 8 P.M.

Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 7 P.M.; Geological, 8 P.M.; Medico-Botanical, 8 P.M.
Thursday.—Royal, 8 P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; Royal Society of Literature, 4 P.M.; Numismatic, 7 P.M.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8 P.M.;

FINE ARTS.

PHOTOGENIC ART: ENGRAVING.

THIS paper will be read with deep interest by every man of science and artist. It is the FIRST GRAND USEFUL STEP in advance upon the New Invention, and portends such a revolution in many processes (particularly Engraving) now commonly carried on by other means, as to be of universal importance. We rejoice in making the *Literary Gazette* the medium of communicating it to the British public.—Ed. L. G.

Discovery of a method of permanently fixing, engraving, and printing from Daguerrotypy, by Dr. Berres. Paper communicated to the Imperial Society of Physicians of Vienna, at the meeting of the 30th of April, by Dr. Berres, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Vienna, relative to the discovery by him of a method of fixing the impressions produced by Daguerrotypy, by means of which these productions can be employed instead of engraved plates, and copies therefrom printed, as in the case of the ordinary copperplates, &c.

It was announced in the "Vienna Gazette" of the 18th of April last, that I had succeeded in discovering a method by which I was enabled both permanently to fix the pictures produced by the process of Daguerre, and to render them available to all the purposes of etchings upon copper, steel, &c., from which copies might be struck off to any extent, as in the case of ordinary engravings; and it was stated in the same newspaper, that I proposed to bring my discovery immediately before the public. As a member of this distinguished Society, I consider it my duty, in the first instance, to describe to this learned body a discovery which excites so much hope, and which promises so great a benefit to the arts and sciences, as a product of the progress of modern invention in this country, and in your presence to make it for the first time publicly known, and to call upon you to acknowledge truth and successful accomplishment.

The well-known great* expenses, and innumerable difficulties attendant upon the publication of an extensive work requiring engravings as illustrations, led me, in the first instance, to the hope, that through the discovery of Daguerre upon iodined silver plates, I might be able to render it available by improvements, to represent and fix thereupon the objects necessary to my wants; and the first view of a heliographed picture aroused in me the desire also to represent microscopic objects in the same manner, and to be able to collect them, although earlier attempts with the strongest lamplight to produce engravings or etchings had been unsuccessful. For a while, the idea was nearly abandoned as hopeless, until, a short time since, it was revived by the sight of the extraordinarily powerful hydro-oxygen gas microscope of Mr. Schute, of Berlin,—an instrument which, in its power and clearness, has never before been equalled or even approached.

Upon the 27th of February last, I had the honour of laying before this learned body the result of the united investigation of my distinguished colleague, Professor de Ettingshausen and myself, upon this subject, and the perfectly successful experiments with pictures prepared through the process of photography upon microscopic objects. Many specimens of the

* Alluding to his magnificent work upon microscopic anatomy.—*Translator's note.*

results of our researches and successful attempts in this country, in the employment of photography, in scientific and useful purposes, are now placed before you for your examination and approval.*

Through this new method the use of daguerrotypy is rendered considerably more extensive and available for scientific purposes. Every object which is discernible to the eye with clearness, can for the future, through the means of the iodined silver plates, be minutely etched; and, true to Nature (for she is herself the best artist!), be copied with the minutest exactness and beauty.

The astonishingly beautiful representations, which we are enabled to produce through the means of daguerrotypy, are liable to so many injuries, and are so delicate, fragile, and evanescent, that they never can be rendered available for illustrating works of science and other useful purposes.

The deep impression which these productions made upon my mind, although mingled with a knowledge of their fragility, seemed to reproach us for incapacity, in not rendering so great an invention of genius both durable and useful.

In the Petersburg newspaper of March last, I observed the first intelligence of some partially successful attempts to bring daguerrotypy into general use. In the meantime, M. Daguerre had declared before the Institute of Paris the complete failure of all his hopes of succeeding by means of etching, in retaining the impression upon even a single copy; and, in truth, it appears that in Paris all their exertions are limited to producing imitations of daguerrotypy.

The experiments at Petersburg, and the hope of eventually succeeding, urged me to the attempt of using the daguerrotypic prints otherwise than as copies, and I began at the commencement of this month my series of experiments.

Without recapitulating all my unsuccessful attempts, in which I was assisted by the truly obliging and extraordinary readiness of Mr. Francis Kratochvila (a gentleman in the employ of government), and of Mr. Schute, who placed at my disposal an immense number of daguerrotypic specimens; and before I come to the subject-matter of this communication,—i. e. the process of rendering permanent and capable of employment the daguerrotypic prints,—I consider it proper to lay before you the following observations:—

1. The necessary copperplates, as they are used at present in the daguerrotypic plan, can effect only the permanently fixing, never the etching and printing, of copies therefrom.

2. In the heliographic etchings, it is necessary that the picture be produced with the requisite intensity upon pure chemical silver plates.

3. The etching of the daguerrotypic picture is produced through the influence of nitric acid, to be explained hereafter.

4. For the permanent fixing of the daguerrotypic picture, a galvanic power is necessary.

5. For the changing of the daguerrotypic picture into a deep metal etching, so as to be used as a means of printing, the chemical process of etching is finally of itself sufficient.

My newly discovered method of managing

* My friend Dr. Mackenzie has undertaken to convey the specimens exhibited to the Society and many others to London, in the commencement of June, a portion to be placed by him at the disposal of a learned society, and the remainder to be retained for the examination of his scientific friends and the public interested in the progress of science. [Our friends will, we trust, also have an opportunity of seeing specimens in our possession.]—Ed. L. G.

the daguerriotypic productions may be divided into two proceedings.

1. That of permanently fixing the design.
2. The changing the design, when once permanently fixed, into an etching upon the plate.

The method of permanently fixing the daguerriotypic design, with a transparent metal coating, consists in the following process:—

I take the designs produced in the usual manner by the daguerriotypic process, hold them for some minutes over a moderately warmed nitric acid vapour, or steam, and then lay them in nitric acid of 13° or 14° (Réaumur), in which a considerable quantity of copper or silver, or both together, has been previously dissolved. Shortly after being placed therein, a precipitate of metal is formed, and can now be changed to what degree of intensity I desire. Now I take the heliographic picture, coated with metal, place it in water, clean it, dry it, polish it with chalk or magnesia, and a dry cloth or soft leather. After this proceeding the coating will become clean, clear, and transparent, so that the picture can again, with all its properties, be easily seen.

The greatest care and attention are required in preparing the daguerriotypic impressions intended to be printed from. The picture must be carefully freed from iodine, and prepared upon a plate of the most chemically pure silver.

That the production of this picture should be certain of succeeding, according to the experiments of Mr. Kratochvila, it is necessary to unite a silver with a copper plate; while, upon other occasions, without being able to explain the reasons, deep etchings or impressions are produced, without the assistance of the copper plate, upon pure silver plate.

The plate has now to be varnished upon the spot where the acid ought not to have dropped. Next, after being held for one or two minutes over a weak warm vapour or steam, of 25° to 30° (Réaumur) of nitric acid, there must be poured over it a solution of gum Arabic, of the consistency of honey, and it must be placed in a horizontal position, with the impression uppermost, for some minutes. Then I plunge the plate, by means of a kind of double pinette, whose ends are protected by a coating of asphalt, or hard wood, in nitric acid, at 12° or 13° (Réaumur). Let the coating of gum slowly melt off, or disappear, and commence now to add, though carefully and gradually, and at a distance from the picture, a solution of nitric acid, of from 25° to 30°, for the purpose of deepening or increasing the etching power of the solution. After the acid has arrived at 16° to 17° (Réaumur), and gives off a peculiarly biting vapour, which powerfully affects the sense of smelling, the metal becomes softened; and then, generally at this point, the process commences of changing the shadow upon the plate into a deep engraving or etching. This is the decisive moment, and upon it must be bestowed the deepest attention. The best method of proving if the acid be strong enough is to apply a drop from that in which the plate now lies to another plate: if the acid make no impression, it is of course necessary to continue adding nitric acid; if, however, it corrode too deeply, then it is necessary to add water, the acid being too strong. The greatest care must be bestowed upon this process. If the potency of the acid have been carried too far, a fermentation and white froth will cover the whole picture; and thus not alone the surface of the picture, but also the whole surface of the plate will quickly be corroded.

When, by a proper strength of the etching powers of the acid, a soft and expressive out-

line of the picture shall be produced, then may we hope to finish the undertaking favourably. We have now only to guard against an ill-measured division of the acid, and the avoidance of a precipitate.—To attain this end, I frequently lift the plate out of the fluid, taking care that the etching power shall be induced to whatever part it may work the least; and seek to avoid the bubbles and precipitate by a gentle movement of the acid.

In this manner the process can be continually applied to the proper points of strength and clearness of etching required upon the plates, from which it is proposed to print.

I believe that a man of talent, who might be intrusted with this art of etching, and who had acquired a certain degree of dexterity in preparing for it, would very soon arrive at the greatest clearness and perfection, and from my experience, I consider, would soon be able to simplify the whole process. I have tried very often to omit the steaming and the gum Arabic, but the result was not satisfactory, or the picture, very soon after, was entirely destroyed; so that I was compelled again to have recourse to them.

The task which I have undertaken is now fully performed by placing in the hand of this learned body my method of etching and printing from the daguerriotypic prints, which information being united to the knowledge and mechanical experience we already possess, and published to the world, may open a road to extensive improvements in the arts and sciences.

By thus laying open my system to the scientific world, I hope to prove my devotion to the arts and sciences, which can end only with my life.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

[Third notice.]

120. *Horses taken in to Bait.* The property of J. Marshall, Esq. Edwin Landseer, R.A.—The horse and the portrait, like all which comes from the pencil of this admirable artist, are distinguished for character and beauty. The figures introduced are in the Flemish costume, and so decidedly does the picture resemble a Cuyt, that, for our own part, the possession of it would give us as much pleasure as that of most of the works which we have seen by that justly esteemed painter.

116. *Fair Time.* W. Mulready, R.A.—This painting, also, in style and execution, much resembles some of the best productions of Flemish art, and, like the Dutch fairs, it has a feature not less common to them than to those of our own country: for an intoxicated young peasant stands at the door of a cottage, to the great annoyance of its sober and grave inmates. In the foreground, a group of boys are extorting pence from a good-natured countryman to spend at the fair. As in "The Wolf and the Lamb" of former celebrity, there is a covert meaning in this, as in many other of this able artist's works.

72. *Scene from the Gentle Shepherd.* A. Johnston.—A very pretty pastoral subject, but it is love in a mist, for the atmosphere is very hazy; as early dawn is alluded to in the quotation, this is "quite correct," especially in "the north country."

87. *The Wedding Ring.* N. J. Crowley.—The subject is well treated, and we will add, with reference to the fair damsel about to receive the pledge, that her intended has well chosen. As a work of art, the execution is able and the effect brilliant.

69. *Fruit.* A. J. Oliver, A.—We could not

wish the couple just noticed a better dessert after their wedding-dinner than that displayed in this well-managed and varied composition.

252. *The Irish Whisky-Still.* Sir D. Wilkie, R.A.—There is no performance, whether as a subject or as a work of art, of more general interest, than this miscellaneous filled picture, by Sir D. Wilkie; but if, instead of human beings, from infancy to old age, employed in the production of this fascinating poison, he had introduced imps and demons, such as we find in S. Biard's "Slave-trade," they would have been more appropriate to the scene and its consequences.

361. *A Mother's Love.* G. Clint.—The sentiment in the lines quoted is beautiful, and it is beautifully illustrated by the pencil of the artist.

334. *The Wonderful Cure by Paracelsus.* R. Redgrave.—Would that there were such physicians nowadays! The subject is made interesting by the skill of the artist, it owes little to the occasion which gave rise to it. The work has all the appearance of the representation of a grand historical event, without any thing to support the character of one.

287. *The Monarchy in the Fourteenth Century, Boar-Hunters Refreshed, &c.* J. R. Herbert.—The same may, perhaps, be said of this clever composition, but it belongs to an age which the present generation is fond of contemplating, and in the hunters' hall of a country sportsman's residence would be quite in place. The merit of the performance would be welcome any where.

487. *The Lay of the Last Minstrel.* W. D. Kennedy.—The portrait of the late Sir Walter Scott is introduced as the minstrel. With a great deal of talent displayed, both in character and in execution, we think the composition rather overlaid; fewer figures and more simplicity would have given greater dignity to the scene.

61. *The Salvation of the Aged Friar.* C. L. Eastlake, R.A.—A picture of purity, both in sentiment and in colour. The paternal and affectionate character of the old father, and the value and favour of his benediction, are evinced by the grateful and devout manner in which the latter is received by a group of young and beautiful females. Great breadth is preserved in the composition, without any violent contrast in either tone or hue.

256. *The Passing Welcome: Naples.* W. Collins, R.A.—The passing welcome is seen in a group of females on an elevated, vine-clad terrace, bestowing a bunch of delicious grapes on a traveller who has halted below to receive the gift; but whether this is a general custom, or a particular favour, we are left to guess. Not so of the sunlit and brilliantly coloured character of this beautiful picturesque composition.

Of a similar and no less lively description are 89, *A Neapolitan Boy decorating the Head of his Innamorata at the Festa of the Madonna del Arco*; and 92, *The Loggia of a Vine Dresser's Cottage in the Afternoon of a Saint's Day.* T. Uwins, R.A.—Love and the dance are too pleasing accessories in the performance of religious duties not to be duly appreciated by youthful votaries of either sex.

[To be continued.]

MR. LILLET'S PORTRAIT OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL LORD BLOOMFIELD.

This fine whole-length is now on view at Messrs. Colnaghi and Puckle's, preparatory to its being sent to the engraver's. It is a striking resemblance of the distinguished nobleman

in question. The figure is admirably drawn, and has an air of manly dignity and simplicity that is very imposing. Perhaps if some portions of the contour were more lost in the background, the effect would be improved. We were much pleased with the masterly manner in which Mr. Lilley has treated the gold-lace, and the insignia of the Order of the Bath.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

LINES ON THE LITTLE POSTAGE-STAMP
PICTURE OF OUR DEAR LITTLE QUEEN.

On! our sweet little Queen! What beauties adorn her;
Though but funny she looks there, stuck up in the corner;
None can doubt, who have eyes, even Radicals mulish,
She's a penny-wise Queen, not a Sovereign foolish.

Mulready may boast of his flourishing figures,
His Chinese, William Penns, naked ladies, and niggers,
Here's a head worth them all, and at as little cost
We've the head of the nation, a head for the Post.

Just plaster it on, or in black, or in blue,
And your missives will travel free all the land through;
To stop them who dared would be lagged for a scamp,
One who'd venture to say that she's not the right stamp.

And 'tis proper and right, for though jesters may scoff,
Like sharp critics at plays, and cry Off, off, off, off,
She's been bred in a school where folks learn to stick
faster [plaster].
Than any where else,—thence the statesmen's court

For a penny address we apply to the crown,
And it knocks your pre-postorous pre-paying quite down,
As with feelings most loyal to the office you range,
Pop your Queen-letter in and never seek change.

Dear bust of our Gracious, to Albert allotted,
One to literature, science, and fine arts devoted;
For his sake who holds you in sweet nuptial fetters,
Stick to him, to your post, and to all men of Letters.

And, loved Queen, in return, We, all faithful and true,
Should rebellion ere point its foul finger at you,
Or Chartism's surges against your throne dash,
Will stick fast and back you like glutinous wash.

TEUTHA.

THE DRAMA.

Covent Garden (as we noticed three weeks ago) shuts after Friday next, when C. Mathews takes a benefit—no doubt, a bumper one. The shortening of the season speaks of but moderate success.

At the *Haymarket*, to-night, a new tragedy of a domestic character, and founded on that deep and damned blot, the massacre of Glencoe, is announced for a first representation, with Macready and all the strength of the house.

Thursday, at the *German Theatre*, *Faust* was produced in a miserable style, and with the exception of a chorus or two, the music was ineffective and wearisome. The same night being advertised as Lablache's benefit,—a trap to strangers who know no better,—*Her Majesty's Theatre* was well filled for *Don Juan*, and the performances went off pleasantly in this never-tiring opera.

Quartet Concerts.—The last of these attractive concerts was given on Monday night, the programme was even more than usually promising, and the room as full as it has previously been. Although concerts are now plentiful as blackberries, the audience were gratified by hearing Haydn's quartet in E flat major, and Beethoven's quartet in C minor, perfectly performed. A manuscript trio for pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, was beautifully played by Mr. S. Bennett (the composer), Mr. Blagrove, and Mr. Lucas. Madame Stockhausen and Miss Bildtsine were the vocalists, the former sung charmingly.

Societa Armonica.—We would not wish to pass an evening more pleasantly than at one of these concerts; alike certain of great variety and great excellence, and of being able to get away at a respectable time. On Monday the fourth concert was fully attended; Mademoiselle Nau sung three songs: her voice is of poor quality, but of considerable extent and highly cultivated; in our opinion, she attempts rather

too much. Mr. Barret, of whom we have often spoken in terms of praise, delighted us greatly in a concerto on the oboe, composed by himself; Mr. Hayward was too fantastical on the violin; Beethoven's exquisite overture to "Fidelio" was one of the treats of the evening. F. Lablache and Ernesta Grisi sung during the concert. We are sorry we have only two more to attend.

Miss Steele's Concert in the Hanover Square Rooms on Tuesday week was one of great beauty and interest. Miss Clara Novello was in splendid voice ("Prendi per me"), and John Parry full of humour in "Oh, the Merry Days!" and "The Singing Lesson." Miss Birch also sung delightfully, as did the other vocalists; whilst the instrumental attractions were well sustained by Lidel, Lazarus, and Salaman. But the chief novelty of the evening was the following charming ballad by Lover, charmingly given by Miss Steele:—

"One morn as fiercely blew the blast amid the breaker's roar,

A Rover came and fearless cast his grappling on the shore;
But the Rover, too, was grappled there,—a captive soon
was he; [the sea].

For he saw and loved a maiden fair who dwelt beside
They loved and wed, and years soon fled, and when a
baby's smile [while];

Was beaming in the Rover's face, he seem'd so sad the
He thought upon his fearless child, and look'd across the
sea, [the sea].

For he fear'd the day a Rover wild his baby boy would be,
He kis'd the child and gave it back into its mother's
arms, [alarms].

'One other cruise,' he said, 'and then—farewell to gull's!
He call'd his hand, he piped each hand, his sail swept far
from shore, [more].

But storm or strife bereft the wife, the Rover came no
more."

VARIETIES.

Calligraphy.—We hear that, among the presents lately made to her majesty, is one of the most magnificent specimens of penmanship ever executed. It is by Mr. John Craik, the master of the celebrated Academy of the Royal Burgh of Dumfries, which has produced, in other respects, so many eminent men. At the head of the specimen is a representation of her Majesty and Prince Albert on horseback, done with the pen. Her majesty received this tribute from Mr. Craik through the Marquess of Normauby, Secretary of State for the Home Department, in the most gracious manner, it having been given by the Right Hon. Sir A. Johnston to the Marquess of Lansdowne for presentation.

The Queen to be Rafted for!—Though Mr. Minasi made his delicate pen-and-ink drawing of her majesty, after Ross, as a companion to *Prince Albert*, we are now given to understand that the likeness is visible at 337 Strand, previous to being appropriated by raffle to the most fortunate of her (subscribing) subjects.

York Minster.—We observe with deep regret that this glorious edifice has again suffered from fire. The extent of the damage is not clearly stated, but it seems to have been great, and that the tower is nearly destroyed.

Catalogue of General Ainslie's Collection of Coins and Medals. (Leigh Sotheby.)—In June, this superb collection, belonging to the late author of "Illustrations of Anglo-French Coinage," comes to the hammer, and will doubtless help to enrich and complete many a numismatic store. Above 400 lots, many of them consisting of four, six, eight, ten, or a dozen specimens, present almost every variety of metallic records. They illustrate the arts and history; and some of the most rare and the unique are objects of great interest. Where the attractions are so numerous, we need not particularise, but recommend personal inspection.

Aubusson and Gobelin Tapestry.—We have been gratified by the exhibition at the Egyptian

Hall of some superb examples of these manufactures. The large room is carpeted and hung round with them, and the richness of the effect can hardly be imagined. The carpets combine beautiful patterns with the gorgeous colours of the Persian loom; and the texture appears to be of a kind to make the work everlasting. The specimens of Gobelin tapestry are admirable, and some of gold tissues so splendid, that an Eastern monarch, on his diamond throne, might envy their splendour. The prices, of course, must be very high; but in days when the competition to produce cheap wares tends to the deterioration of all, it is pleasant to see the highest efforts of useful and magnificent art.

Sir S. Clarke's Pictures.—The sale on the 9th inst. was a repetition of the Friday's crowd and competition. The great prizes were the two Murillos, one of which, "The Good Shepherd," was bought by M. Rothschild for above three thousand pounds, and the other by Lord Ashburton for above two thousand. His lordship has since transferred it, at the price given, to the National Gallery.

Terraces on the Banks of the Thames.—We are glad to observe that some stir is again making to obtain this great convenience and improvement for the banks of our glorious Thames. A petition has been presented to Parliament on the subject; and a meeting was held at Sir W. Heygate's to promote it, which we regret we could not attend. At the time when the building of the new Parliament Houses must cause great alterations, it is most desirable to obtain this embellishment for the capital of the British Empire.

The Percy Society.—Under this title a new society is forming for "the publication of ancient ballads, plays, and minor pieces of poetry;" and a council has been chosen to carry the design into effect. The publications will resemble those of the flourishing Camden Society; and we observe with pleasure the names of Payne Collier, A. Dyce, J. O. Halliwell, Joseph Hunter, T. Wright, and other well-known antiquaries and literati, already enrolled among the leading members. Richard Halliwell and E. F. Rimbault, Esqrs., are the Treasurer and Secretary.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We thank our correspondent for directing our attention to the spacious ancient roof of the Chapter House, Canterbury Cathedral; but we are not aware of its relative proportions to the roof of Westminster Hall.

In the absence of any communication from the patentees of the electro-motive machine, we reply to X.Y.Z. that we also attribute the "increased efficiency" to the employment of Grove's powerful voltaic combination; that we believe the patent has been taken for the application of electro-magnetism to machinery; and that the "novelty" consists in the electro-magnets being stationary whilst contact is broken and renewed, and motion produced, as described in our former No., instead of by change of polarity.

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ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION.—TO ARTISTS, &c.—An Exhibition of Pictures in Oil and Water-Colours, Specimens of Sculpture and Casts, Architectural Designs, and Proof Impressions of Modern Engravings, will take place next Autumn, to which works of Art are respectfully solicited.—They will be received at the Institution from the 1st to the 15th August inclusive.

Pictures from London may be forwarded through Messrs. Kenworthy and Son, carriers, and from other places by the most convenient water conveyance.

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